No 63,274

Sad services in Lockerbie as the searching goes on



Crash investigators, airlines and aircraft manufacturers were last night becoming increasingly worried that the crash of the Pan Am jumbo jet at Lockerbie could have been caused by some kind of catastrophic structural failure rather than a bomb, as was first

Rescue teams spent Christmas Day searching gutted homes and scorched countryside around the town, seeking the bodies of 30 people still missing after the air crash which devastated the quiel Scottish town last Wednesday.

Investigators have found no evidence of sabotage, but have still not ruled out the possibility that a terrorist bomb killed the 258 people aboard the jet and an unknown number of residents and motorists. The Queen made an unprecedented addition to her traditional Christmas Day message to talk of "the many homes today where the joy of Christmas has been

darkened by a cloud of sadness and grief". So far 239 bodies have been recovered. many of which have now been traosferred to a morgue in the local town hall.

At the rescue centre in Lockerbie Academy, WRVS workers served a tra-ditional Christmas dinner to the hundreds of troops, police officers and rescue workers who spent yesterday searching the muddy countryside.

More than 30 relatives of American victims have arrived in the town, where

they attended church services, placed flowers outside the town hall and saw the severed nose of the jet Clipper Maid of the Sea lying in a field three miles from the

The lack of any evidence of an explosive device, together with the similarities between last week's disaster and the sudden

Ireland three years ago, was raising fears that the aircraft was suddenly ripped apart in the sky as a result of an unknown failure in the main fuselage, just behind the flight

If this is proved to have been the cause, it could have a profound effect on the entire aviation industry and would almost cer-

Investigators puzzled. The Pope's message The Queen's speech

tainly lead to the grounding of many older

Investigators are now concentrating on the jagged edges of the metal around the nose section of the jet, checking for any signs of metal fatigue or an indication that the aircraft may have lost one of its forward

cargo doors in flight.

They are also puzzled by the apparent disappearance of the left wing of the aircraft

appears to have been missing as the aircraft went into the ground. This had led to theories that it could have been knocked off as the nose section tore away from the main wreckage, shortly before the impact, and may have been blown by the wind into the sea just south of the crash site.

American officials privately confirmed over the weekend television reports that one of the passengers who died in the crash had been the Central Intelligence Agency's station chief in Beirut.

The State Department said on Friday that two of the passenger had been attached to the US embassy in Beirut. They were identified as Matthew Gannon, of Orange, California, and Ronald Larivière of Holyoke, Massachusetts. It was not clear which was the station chief. Mr Gannon had just completed an assignment as political officer in Beirut, where Mr Larivière had been a security officer.

him he had been killed on board Flight 103. On Saturday his son, a serviceman, of someone else.

telephoned from Germany, unaware that the airline had confused his name with that "Hell's not the word. If it hadn't been for prayer and the church I belong to here I

couldn't have made it", Mr Wittman said. Pan Am had noufied Mr Wittman at his home in the town of Okmulgee on Thursday that Master-sergeant David Lee O'Connor, his son by a previous marriage, had been oo the plane. The victim was in fact Daniel O'Connor, aged 3t, of Boston, who was a security agent for the State Department in Nicosia and whose death had already been announced by the department. The Pan Am computer had recorded Sergeant O'Connor's details in connection with another booking.

Mr Wittman said of the families of other victims: "My heart goes out to them because I know what they are feeling."

North Sea oil output hit by drifting tanker

Fears of 25% cut in overall production

By Andrew Morgan, Mark Souster and David Brewerton

The losses from the Fulmar field alone amount to £2.4

million a day, with the three be relatively temporary, but,

not months".

tion next month.

operations of the Shell Group.

The vessel, which had oo

engines, broke free in high seas

from its moorings close to the

Fulmar platform, where it had

remained statiooary for seveo

years. Rescue helicopters were

scrambled and the adjoining

platforms put on evacuation

standby, but the drifting ves-

sel, half-full with 100,000 tonnes of crude oil and a crew

of 34, passed safely clear of

other installations. It drifted

south-east for five hours be-

fore three tugs were able to put lines aboard. Last night, the

vessel was being towed to

Miss Jane Franchi, a BBC

television reporter on board

the Fulmar platform for an

Everybody knows they were

She said the vessel, travel-

ling at about 5mph, passed within one mile of a platform

The storage unit, formerly the supertanker Medora, was

located one and half miles

Oil from the three platforms

was pumped to a seabed

junction and then to a surface

mooring where the tanker

acted as a mother ship for smaller tankers. It was designed to withstand winds

of up to 98 mph and waves of

88ft but broke free under

conditions far less less severe.

water inspection by a sub-

marine equipped with video

showed there was a clean

break at the seabed joint when

it broke free taking part of the

riser. This would lessen the

The spokesman added:

damage to the installation.

Shell said that an under-

from the Fulmar platform.

with 150 men on board.

outside broadcast, said: "But given that these fields are

Stavangar in Norway.

very lucky".

position because it is unique in the North Sea".

The loss of production will

time when the trade gap is

beginning to pick up. How-ever, the unseasonally warm

weather should go some way to offset the fall in production.

Overseas earnings from

crude oil have already fallen

sharply, a reflection of both

lower prices and production

cutbacks. In 1985, net over-

about £9 hillion. This year

they will be little more than £2

However, Britain should

remain self-sufficient in oil for

the oext four to five years, and

the current shutdowns will

Mr Jim Walker, an oil

economist with the Royal

Bank of Scotland, said the

production loss from the Ful-

mar incident would have its

chief effect on the balance of

payments rather than on gov-

ernment North Sea revenues.

The loss might have been

slightly offset if the three fields

had been foreign-operated, as

profits and dividends would

not be going overseas for the duration of the shutdown.

Shell and BP's, the profits and

dividends would have stayed

North Sea

STORAGE VESSEL BROKE ADRIFT NOW UNDER TOW TO STAVANGAR

FULMAR

AUK (1)

CLYDE (1 --

in this country."

extend the life of the fields.

The loss also comes at a time when oil prices are

heading for £15 billion.

Britain's North Sea oil- fields, which have a combined "The vessel will be examined fields were today facing a daily output of 210,000 barrels in Stavanger and assessed for massive loss of productor or between 10 and 12 per cent damage, which we believe to massive loss of produc- or between 10 and 12 per cent tion after a giant floating of Britain's oil supply, could be minimal but it could take storage vessel serving be at a standstill for weeks, if several weeks to get it back in storage vessel serving three fields broke from its

Following the loss of oil flow caused by the Piper Alpha disaster in July, the latest incident could mean fields representing about taken with Piper Alpha represents a serious blow to Britain's balance of payments at a a cut in overall production The Government has approved of as much as 25 per cent.

as much as 25 per cent.
The vessel, which is nearly oil platform safe, using explo-440 yards long with a sive charges, to clear the capacity of 200,000 tonnes of remains of the basic support crude oil, was acting as a structure so it no longer poses central loading point for the a navigational hazard. Subject output of the Fulmar and Auk to weather conditions, it is hoped to complete the operaoilfields, operated by Shell, and the Clyde, operated by Britoil, which is now part of

A spokesman for Shell said Sea and about 5 percent of the

INSIDE

First Light

 The first of six extracts from Peter Ackroyd's latest novel, a lyrical mixture of science and comedy. page 16

Charades

 A family quiz for Christmas, with champagne prizes, begins on page 14

TOMORROW

Early Times

 A special 12-page edition of the children's newspaper Early Times comes free with The Times

Portfolio

 Saturday's weekly prize of £8,000 was not claimed so the game resumes on Wednesday with the Accumulator standing at £80,000 in addition

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to the £4,000 daily prize.

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Sandringham Christmas for Royal Family



Peace call to Israel

Mubarak offers talks

From Richard Owen in Jerusalem and Nicholas Beeston in London

to welcome an offer by Presipeace for the first time since be came to power.

But in the same breath Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, rejected the idea that Israel might take part "indirectly" io the current talks between the United States and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the executive committee of which was meeting in Baghdad to discuss the formation of a Palestinian government in

Cairo's latest initiative, which comes after its active diplomatic support for the PLO since it renounced terror-

Israel yesterday moved swiftly ism and recognized Israel's right to exist last month, dent Mubarak of Egypt to emerged yesterday when Israel for talks on Middle East President Mubarak told the President Mubarak told the Kuwaiti newspaper al-Anbaa that he would be prepared to visit Israel for the first time since he came to power in

> would lead to a solution of the problem and establishment of Manger Square hope... a just peace, I am ready," Mr Mubarak said. "But it should be clear that to travel any-

"If such a visit (to Israel)

where I must be sure there will be some benefit or result." Mr Shamir told Newsweek magazine that the renunciation of terrorism by the PLO

bluff. Yesterday he said after the first meeting of the oew Israeli Cabinet that he would be happy to receive Mr Mubarak "in Jerusalem".

• BEIRUT: The Ahu Nida group said yesterday that it would release two French girl hostages, but by last night had only sent out video cassettes of their mother, M Jacqueline Valente, and other hostages seized from a yacht last year (AFP reports).

Marie-Laure Betille, aged seven, her sister Virginie, aged six, and their mother were seized by the Fatah Revolutionary Council on the yacht Silco in the eastern Mediterranean in November last year,

together with five Belgians.

Season of warmth

By Robin Young

Christmas for years. The temperature in London on Christmas Eve reached 14C (57.2F), the highest since 1940, and yesterday, with a maximum temperature of 12C (54F), was the warmest Christmas Day since 1974.

The Meteorological Office said that the muggy weather, brought by a south-westerly airstream over the Atlantic, is likely to persist until Friday,

It has been the warmest which is bad news for those who chose to spend their holiday skiing. Conditions in Scotland, where the tem-perature reached 9C, were described as "hopeless"

Meanwhile police yesterday claimed that the Government's anti-drink driving campaign had been a success with the number of positive breath-tests running one fifth below 1987 levels.

Forecast, page 24



hird dimension to the technology

By Robert Matthews **Technology Correspondent**

Anyone flagging under the strain of

hours of Christmas television-watching can benefit from a breakthrough in entertainment technology by Professor Fergus Campbell of Cambridge University.

While the rest of the world has been racing to develop the television of the 21st century, Professor Campbell has found that any television can be turned into a futuristic three-dimensional entertainment system by simply using a fairly large piece of

During a £65,000 Governmentbacked research programme into visual perception Professor Campbell found that looking at television

through a cardboard frame fixed about 10 inches from the screen gave images a dramatic impression of

The professor says that for years the discovery has been staring everyone in the face - io art galleries.

Artists have long known that putting a large frame around a picture gives an impression of depth that is otherwise lacking.

Professor Campbell and his team at the university's physiological laboratory found that the same idea works for television screens. Finding out why it works has been

the spur to an four-year research Professor Campbell says the answer lies in the way the brain perceives

"visual cues" - as objects come closer they appear to get larger and to move across the field of vision faster.

In addition, our eyes see slightly different images which the brain translates into a single image a certain distance away, giving our perception of depth.

Putting a frame around the screen makes people unaware of how far away the screen really is, so the brain picks up all cues about depth from the image on the screen.

The result is an apparently threedimensional image on the television. Professor Campbell and his team have carried out experiments to discover the Optimum dimensions of

"It should be about 12 inches wide

around the edges, with the hole in the middle about 10 per cent smaller than the screen itself, said Professor Campbell, Three-dimensional images should appear when the frame is fixed about 10 inches from the screen.

One drawback is that because of the smaller apparent screen size only one person at a time can watch.

Professor Campbell said the effect could be very impressive for underwater or nature films.

With at least seven of today's films being repeats, viewers should have plenty of opportunity to carry out research with the frame. The underwater sequences in the James Bond film Octopussy, being shown on independent television at 3.40pm. should be particularly spectacular.

service in St Mary Magdalene Church, Sandringham yesterday. It was the first royal Christmas at Sandringham for 25 years because the usual venue, Windsor Castle, is undergoing repairs.

From left, (back row), the Duke of York, the Prince of Wales, Captain Mark Phillips, the Duke of Edinburgh. Front: the Duchess of York, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, the Princes of Wales,

The Queen and 25 other members of the Royal Family

were greeted by a huge crowd when

Peter and Zara Phillips, Prince William, Princess Margaret and the Queen. The girl in the foreground had a tug of war with the Queen when she refused to hand over a posy. Prince William came to the Queen's rescue, helping her to carry some of the dozens of bunches of flowers presented by well-wishers.

On preserving one's sang-froid.

Undoubtedly, January's Sales offer a gentleman the chance to make many a judicious purchase.

But is not the jostling of the crowd too high a price to pay for them? Not in the case of the Gentleman's

Sale at Gieves & Hawkes. Here, unruffled, one may select merchandise at prices that have reached their nadir.

While enjoying an excellence of service that never wavers from the zenith.

Examples of our reductions:

Examples 0	of oth reductions	3.
	Original Price	Sale Price
2-piece suits	£260	£195
Wool blazers	£175	£115
Pure cotton shirts	£45	£27
Silk ties	£29	£14

Plus a minimum of 20% of all other suits, jackets



GIEVES & HAWKES No. 1 Savile Row, London

The Gentleman's Sale.

Starts 27th December: No. 1 Savile Row, London, t-7 St. Michael's Row, Chester.

48 George Street, Edinburgh. For details of other Gieves & Hawkes store opening times and Sale dates, telephone Elizabeth Coulter on 01-434 2001.

NEWS ROUNDUP

Three are killed in Scottish house fire

A couple and their daughter aged 11 died yesterday morning when fire broke out at their home in Dunfermline, Fife. Firemen rescued two other children from the burning

They used a ladder to get them down from a window at the apstairs flat in Adamson Crescent, Dunfermline. Another man jumped from an upper window, firemen said. He suffered a broken ankle and was taken to hospital.

The fire started in the living room, but spread rapidly and caused extensive damage.

• Mrs Patricia McRae, aged 39, died when fire swept

through her three-bedroom mid-terraced home in Hassock Lee, Fairwater, Cwmbran, Gwent, on Christmas Eve. However, her husband, Mr James McRae, aged 39, and three children aged four, eight, and 11, escaped from the

Birthday bonanza

Ted Nash yesterday toasted his third great-granddaughter to be born on Christmas Day. His grandson's wife, Helen, gave be born on Christmas Day. His grandson's wife, Helen, gave birth to Katie Ann, as her other daughter Emma celebrated her eighth birthday. Mr Nash, aged 72, of Cardiff, had welcomed yet another Christmas baby last year when his granddaughter Beverly had Jade. "I'm just thrilled", Mr Nash said. "I wanted her named Edwina, after me, but my grandsoo said he didn't want her named after Edwina. Christia hersuse of all the eng trouble." Currie, because of all the egg trouble."

Advertising review
The Independent Broadcasting Authority is reviewing its rules over the advertising of children's toys which, since 1975, have had to carry a price in televisioo commercials. The rule was introduced to help parents ward off demands from children wanting expensive presents, but the British Toy and Hobby Manufacturers Association and the National Association of Toy Retailers argue that the pricing in commercials is misleading because of regional variations. A decision on the issue will not be made until May.

Cotton mill may close

The only working steam-powered mill in Britain may close at the end of March unless it finds new financial support. Queen Street Mill in Burnley, Lancashire, was opened as a museum by the Prince of Wales two years ago, and is a solitary reminder of the momentous cotton era when the town wove more cloth than anywhere else in the world. A firm of consultants has estimated that £350,000 is needed to develop visitor facilities and that the cost of keeping the looms and engines in operation will be £200,000 a year.

Police pay £1,750 Police who were robbed of £50,000 during a blackmail stake-

out have paid £1,750 in an out-of-court settlement to an innocent man arrested in the mix-up. Mr George Stewart, aged 47, had filed a writ against the Chief Constable of Lincolnshire and the Thames Valley force. Detectives had been instructed to leave £50,000 near a telephone box in Harpswell, Lincolnshire. They arrested a man as he went into the telephone box and during the confusion the real blackmailer stole the money. Mr Stewart, who was walking near by, was then arrested. The blackmailer was caught later.

US robin blows in

The American robin is stealing the limelight from its British counterpart this Christmas. The American bird, which is almost twice the size of the familiar European robin and has grey-brown upperparts and a brick-red breast and upper belly, was seen hopping around seafront lawns and gardens at Inverbervie in Grampian, Scotland, yesterday. It is a rare visitor to this country and hundreds of birdwatchers are expected to travel to Scotland to see it today.

Heseltine prompts European debate

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Mr Michael Heseltine is planning a thinly-veiled challenge leading edge of this move-to the Prime Minister's hostil-ment, it can be sure that its ity to greater European pol- Community partners will be, itical and monetary union.

ister's personal manifesto will be launched at a time likely to and marketing strategies will cause maximum political change peole's expectations cootroversy.

which national boundaries gradually fade will be unveiled io an 80,000-word book, The Challenge of Europe, to be published at the start of campaigning for the June troversy within the Common European elections. Market — tax harmonization

further remioder that Mr thwarted in his bid to find a European partner for the West Country helicopter firm, refuture Tory leadership con-

whn has spoken of the "folly" of a United States of Europe, the former Defence Secretary regards federalism as an academic issue that need not be stress the economic benefits of addressed until the next century.

Instead, he wants the country to realize that io a vast range of areas. European states are drawing closer to-gether and that in every nne of with influential sections of the them a British national interest is at stake.

If Britain is not at the and that opportunities will be The former Cabinet Min- missed, Mr Heseltine believes.

"Travel, career prospects, outroversy.

And assumptions. The judge-ment for politicians is whether they want to react to that process or play a role in leading opinion towards it", Mr Heseltine said.

On specific points of con-The book will also be a and a European Central Bank - Mr Heseltine believes Heseltine, who resigned over that no member state can the Westland affair after being afford to stand apart from negotiations without risking

being left behind. He also believes that marmains a contender in any kets will demand a common currency. Mr Peter Brooke, the Conservative Party chair-Unlike the Prime Minister, man, will shortly begin work on the Tory battle plan for the elections to the European Parliament. The resulting mini-manifesto is likely to greater trade liberalization but resist changes that under-

mine national sovereignty. Mr Heseltine's alternative credo, to be published in May party, especially those with business connections.

Shake-up set to bring cuts in Bar's monopoly By Frances Gibb Legal Affairs Correspondent

The breaking of the Bar's monopoly in the crown court and allowing solicitors to become High Court judges are proposals expected in the Lord Chancellor's Green Paper on the legal profession in January.

The keenly-awaited Green Paper promises to be possibly the most significant event for the legal profession this century.

Restrictive practices among lawvers both in the courts and outside have been targeted for reform. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, has already made clear the Green Paper will be a fundamental review, starting from first

One important proposal is expected to be that solicitors should have the right to take some of the simpler crown court cases. How-ever, the right will be strictly limited

expertise.

The Lord Chancellor is also expected, in a second Green Paper, to allow banks and building societies to undertake cooveyancing for their own customers, with strict safe-

He wants to see an end to the present restrictive practice by which the work a lawyer can do is largely determined by whether he is a solicitor or barrister, regardless of Instead, the Green Paper will say

that the match of lawyer to case should be determined by the level of qualification the work demands, judged on its weight and complexity. It is likely barristers would go on doing the more complex crown court cases and that the Lord Chancellor will specify the category

of case appropriate for solicitors. The Green Paper's proposals

to solicitors with a proven specialist come from an ad hoc "think tank", drawing on several government departments, including the Home Office, Crown Prosecution Service and the Department of Trade and Industry, as well as the Lord Chancellor's Department.

Solicitors who want to do crown court work will have to be members of specialist litigation panels, which have already been set up for other fields of work such as child care and mental health. The Lord Chancellor has made

clear he favours many more such panels, in areas of legal aid work such as medical oegligence, personal injuries and housing. The Green Paper is expected to recommend that solicitors be cli-

gible for appointment to the High Court bench. At present such judges are only drawn from the Bar.

In the High Court, where - as in the crown court - the Bar also has a

virtual monopoly, proposals are already before the Lord Chancellor which would give solicitors in-creased rights of audience in many In June the Civil Justice Review

Body proposed that large numbers of cases (some 70 per cent of the general cases in the Queen's Bench division) should come down from the High Court to the county court. where solicitors have rights of andience.

Any Green Paper proposal is likely to take account of those recommendations, which again are based on the need to match cases to the right judicial level according to their complexity and substance.

The effect of the Green Paper would be that barristers would go on taking the most complex High Court cases, while io the county court the work would be done by solicitors or even lay representatives. Restric-

tions on the right of solicitors to hire counsel for the run-of-the-mill cases might be imposed.

Lord Mackay is also certain to recommend the Bar and Law Society to issue written professional standards on the conduct of all types of litigation; and, as the Civil Justice Review proposed, to set up schemes (or panels) "fostering specialization by practitioners based on objective criteria of competence and experence".

Other likely proposals are that solicitors should be free to form mixed practices (with other professionals) and that the solicitors' probate monopoly be ended.

In another Green Paper, to be issued at the same time, the Lord Chancellor is likely to give the go-shead to contingency fee work for certain types of case, by which litigants only pay their lawyers if they are successful.

Lockerbie inquiry goes on as relatives attend church services in town

Investigators puzzled by missing wing of crash jet

By Harvey Elliott and Andrew Morgan

Crash investigators, airlines and aircraft manufacturers were last night becoming increasingly concerned that the crash of the Pan Am jet in Lockerbie may have been caused by structural failure, rather than by a bomh.

The lack of evidence of an explosive device, together with similarities between this disaster and the disappearance of the Air India Boeing 747 off Ireland three years ago, increased fears that the aircraft was ripped apart by an unknown failure in the fuselage, just behind the flight deck. If this is proved to have

been the cause, it could have a serious effect on the aviation industry and would almost certainly lead to the grounding of many older 747s. Mr William Tench, former

Chief Inspector of Air Accidents, last night said be now erred towards the view that the disaster was due to structural failure, although he was keeping his options open. Mr Tench said struct

failure could have occurred to the rear of the cockpit, which fragmented so much it was unreasonable to expect detailed examination.

"I am still oot dissuaded from the view that structural failure disassociated from a bomb, is the basic cause of the accident. The only reason to believe that there might have been a bomb is that there was a bomh scare, of which there are many. That is a very unreasonable piece of evidence on which to base a conclusion", he said.

Investigators are concentrating on the jagged edges of the metal around the oose section of the crashed jet for signs of metal fatigue or an indication

that the aircraft may have lost ooe of its forward cargo doors in flight.

They are also puzzled by the apparent disappearance of the left wing which, from the pattern of the impact area, appears to have been missing as the aircraft hit the ground. This has led to the theory that it could have been knocked off as the nose section tore away shortly before impact, and may have been blown into the sea south of the crash site.

A more detailed examination of the area will have to be made before it can be known whether the wing was attached as the aircraft hit the ground. The loss of the wing is not

thought to have been the main cause of the accident. Some believe the loss of a wing would not have prevented the pilot from making a distress

But Mr Tench added: "If the wing had broken off at the root, the disruption of the electrical system would have "If the wing is missing this

raises the question of whether there was a structural failure resulting from over-stressing at the time. If the cabin had been split

near the electronics bay just in front of the forward cargo hold, this could explain the sudden loss of power to the "black box" flight recorder. the Air India disaster were

sceptical that it had been caused by a bomb, even though an Indian inquiry formally ruled that a bomb had been placed on board.



Sisters Hannah, aged eight, precluding the sending of a 10, (above), who were victims mayday call. 10, (above), who were victims of the Lockerbie air disaster along with their parents John and Geraldine (right). The family had lived in Surrey, Cheshire and Dorset. Mr in extreme weather conditions, which were in the area at the time."

If the cabin had been colit. They married 16 years ago and Mr Stevenson worked for a bank in Manchester while his wife taught at a convent school. They had been oo their black box" flight recorder.

British investigators into Mrs Stevenson's sister in Boston before going on to a skiing holiday in Vermont. The fam-ily had act up home in Surrey after Mr Stevenson became a

senior manager with Visa in



Pope's words lift 'strange and sad Christmas'

A message of sympathy from the Pope to the people of Lockerbie was read out at yesterday's service in the Roman Catholic Church of The Holy

The message, read by the Bishop of Galloway, the Right Reverand Mau-rice Taylor, said: "The Holy Father has been deeply shocked by oews of the air disaster at Lockerbie and as he commends the victims to eternal rest he invokes almighty God's gifts of comfort and strength on the injured and all affected by this tragedy."

The Reverend James Annand, the Church of Scotland minister of Dryfesdale Church, told his congregation that out of the tragedy had emerged true sympathy and kindness.
"While the joy of Christmas must be overcast for us, the true spirit of the festival has shone through more brightly than during any other Christ-

the congregation heard Mr Annand say that while Lockerbie and its people had been "grievously over-shadowed" by the disaster, the community should not be overwhelmed and should think of the massive kindness and love shown from so many different quarters.

In the 230-year-old church overlooking the town and decorated with a Christmas tree, Mr Annand took the theme of his sermon from the Second Book of Samuel in which King David loses his son. After his son's death, David realized that life must go oo io spite of such a tragedy and turned to

"This may seem a very strange text for Christmas morning, but this is a very strange and sad Christmas." At the beginning of his sermon Mr Annand said: "Shocked disbelief has

mas", he said. About 200 members of so oumbed our minds that only now are we beginning to comprehend what has happened to our community." As the service went on, there were grim reminders of the contiouing search for those bodies still to be recovered from the hills, oow covered in mist, as the beat of helicopter engines was heard

> Mr Annand welcomed the relatives and friends of the victims who attended the service. Some of the American relatives risiting Lockerbie also attended the

> Roman Catholic service. Father Patrick Keepans, before the service, said that the American relatives had been helped by making the

Although it would oot have exorcized the tragedy as it was so deeply embedded in their hearts and minds, it would have helped them to finalize the tragedy. In church, the Bishop asked: "What meaning does the air disaster have for the people of Lockerbie, what meaning does it have for the people of this town which has now become a household name throughout the world?

"If you are the god of love, why did you let this happen? Why did you allow the destruction of hundreds of innocent lives, those who were citizens of Lockerbie and the many dozens who had never heard of Lockerbie and whose lives ended so appailingly in the streets and fields of this part of Scotland?

"And why do you permit so many people to have to suffer the cruel tragic burden of bereavement? The answer to these questions, how to make sense of the pieces of the seemingly senseless jigsaw - God alone knows."

Soldiers search for missing 30 bodies By Rouald Faux

Soldiers and police contioued their search yesterday for the 30 bodies still missing in the wake of the Lockerbie air

disaster. It is known that 258 died in the Pan Am airliner which crashed on to Lockerbie on Thursday killing II people in the town and an unknown number in cars driving past

on the A74. So far 239 bodies have been recovered, many of them now transferred to a morgue in the town hall where wreaths and flowers lie heaped against an outside wall.

Yesterday Lockerbie was grim and quiet with low cloud shrouding the hills above the town. Only those emergency service personnel involved in the clear-up operation and the investigation were out and

about. At the rescue centre in Lockerbie Academy, mem-bers of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service (WRVS) served Christmas dinner to hundreds of troops, police and airmen who arrived damp and mud splattered, after the

morning search.
Mrs Isabel Robertson, district organizer for Stewartry WRVS, said: "We did what we could to relieve the tragedy. We provided turkey, Christlocal hotels supplied wine. It is a sad atmosphere. There are a lot of tired young men here who have seen some dreadful

Outside, at the entrance to the Sherwood Estate, the worst-hit area, police kept watch as firemen worked their way up the road to pick up

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every scrap of wreckage. The timiest of fragments were put in plastic bags, marked and sent to a central collection point in Lockerbie where wreckage from six main crash sites is being assembled. with personal belongings, luggage and mail that was strewn across the countryside.

In Sherwood Crescent, all the damaged houses stood empty near the blackened shells of homes destroyed by the fireball that swept across the small estate and the 30st deep crater dug by a huge section of the airliner.

A mother, father and two children carrying armfuls of Christmas presents went past the police barrier for a reunion with a family whose home had survived.

Elsewhere, more than 30 relatives of victims of the disaster had arrived and were being helped and guarded by social workers. Some attended church services, placed flowers nutside the town hall and went to the severed nose of the aircraft lying like a grim memorial in a field three miles out of town.

However, for the inhabitants of Lockerbie, it has been a Christmas they will oever forget and will not care to remember.

Church finances

Parish suggests removing bishop to save money

By Emma Wilkins A Gloucestershire village has accused its diocese of running its finances like a banana republic in a dispute over

contributions to church funds. In a controversy worthy of a Trollope novel, the churchwardens of Arlingham have even suggested dispensing with one of their two bishops to make savings. They say they cannot meet the diocese's request

for more money. The Diocese of Gloucester has proposed a general increase of 27 per cent in the annual quotes paid by each of its 320 parishes. The quotas, which are paid voluntarily through collection plates on Sundays, are spent on the clergy's salaries, housing and central istration.

Although parishes are not legally bound to pay, the diocese relies on these regular payments to balance its

However, the congregation of 20 villagers from Arlingham has pro-

claim works out at five times the rate of inflation. A meeting of the parochial church council last Tuesday proposed a vote of no confidence in the Diocesan Financial Board, It has written to ask the board to explain the increase from £1.700 to £2,256 a year.

Mr John Bircher, a churchwarden whose family has served the church in Arlingham for more than 70 years, said: "Our share works out at 32 per cent, which is five times the rate of inflation. It makes the diocese seem

like a banana republic. "We are not refusing to pay the extra money, we have always paid our anota in the nast, but we want to know the reasons for this increase.

"It seems an awful lot when you consider we no longer have our own vicar — we have to share him with four other churches? Mr Bircher said: "People are beginning to wonder whether there are

two many officers at the top - we have

got two hishops for a start. Perhaps

pruning at the top instead of at the bottom."

The Bishop of Tewkesbury, the Right Reverend Jeremy Walsh, the Bishop of Gloucester's assistant, agreed the increases were high.

However, he said, an increased number of clergy justified the rise: "We have had to dip into our reserves for the last four years, which we can't go on doing. We had to decide whether to mess about with small increases over a cumber of years or whether to have one blitz."

Nine extra clergy were taken on last year, bringing the total number of parish priests in the diocese to 200. The hishop said that this increase, combined with a fall in the number of parishes becoming vacant, had resnited in a bigger stipendiary bill. He said: "Parishes like Arlingham

do not necessarily understand the

need for some of the work done by the

diocese. But they must remember that 80 per cent of what they pay does come

tested at the increase, which they the diocese could do with some back to their parish in the form of their parish priest. Part of the cost of Christian discipleship is financial." The Church Commissioners, which

supports perochial clergy through stipends, housing and pensions, said that there had been complaints for the past 20 years that quotas had risen. The commissioners said quotas had

increased to keep pace with inflation

and because the cost of pensions to

retired clergy had risen. The commis-

sioners spent £1 million on pensions in 1959, compared with £39 million in The commissioners said: "Although the quotas are not legally compulsory, we have never heard of anyone refusing to pay them."

The commissioners' report and accounts for 1987 show donations by church people, mainly through their diocesan quotas, account for £42.4 million, or 43 per cent of the total cost of maintaining the clergy. The commissioners contribute £38.7 million, or 39 per cent of the cost.

The English invasion

Scots property prices go up

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent The English are iovading Scot- and nearly half io Inverness, are cash buyers. Io Inverness, land again, carrying sacks of both in the Highlands, also for example, 95 per cent of

money with them to buy went to English buyers. homes, particularly in the

bought second or holiday homes, but the evidence from Scottish estate agents to recent months is that the English are now moving from the south and Midlands to live permaadvantage of cheaper prices and a better lifestyle.

A survey by Stuart Wyse Ogilvie, an estate agent with offices throughout Scotland, showed that infour weeks io October, 20 sales in Dingwall, in the Highlands, went to English huyers, representing more than half the sales there. Io the same period more than

half the sales in Invergordon

They generally concentrate

either on traditional detached In the past many have stone properties of four bedrooms or more, or two bedroom cottages, presumably for second or holiday homes. They are buying what for Scottish buyers would be starter homes, at one end of nently in Scotland to take the market, and luxury homes at the other.

The Scottish fear is that the English have the buying power to knock Scottish buyers out of the running", the agents say,

For properties costing more

English buyers pay cash, in Cupar. Fife, the proportion is 80 per cent, and other offices report similar results. The survey found that not

all English buyers went to Scotland to retire. A large proportion were middle-aged. No buyers in Edinburgh and fewer than half in Fife were retiring which showed they were moving for work, often through relocation with their companies.

The invasioo has forced prices to increase sharply this year, by between 10 and 40 per cent in different parts of thao £115,000, according to Scotland. In Edinburgh prop-Stuart Wyse Ogilvie, English erties are 10 to 15 per cent buyers have the greater above the asking price, in Fife purchasing power from selling 20 per cent higher, and in their own homes, and most parts of Glasgow 40 per cent-

Drive to halt threat | Paralysed girl looks forward to school of drink, drugs and Aids among young

gramme will be launched early in the new year to combat the these problems." growing problem of drug and

alcohol abuse in schools. Traditional campaigns can no longer halt the dangers of drugs, teenage drinking and glue sniffing, according to Mr John Butcher, Under Secretary of State for Education

In an exclusive interview with The Times, Mr Butcher said: "We will be lannching a long-term, highly sophisticated, preventative operation.

arrices in D

The problem is too complex to be solved by tradi-tional methods. We now need a more subtle approach."

The Government campaign will centre on 100 drug coordinators throughout the country who will be involved in formulating policy. The first significant change will be to stop treating drug abuse in isolation.

Mr Butcher said: "Until now we have tackled booze, drugs, solvent abuse and Aids as separate problems. They are inextricably linked and will now be tackled together. The national effort so far has been directed to separate campaigns hut it is very clear to everyone that young people who drink too much are prone to drugs. Solvent abuse is dangerous in itself but it can also lead to drugs. And drugs

are a direct route to Aids. "We have reached preliminary agreement that all four problems are related, and we will change the original brief

A radical anti-drugs pro- of the drugs co-ordinators to alongside the schools. I am allow them to deal with all sure there will be a whole

operation will be discussed by Mr Butcher at a meeting in February with about a dozen regional drug co-ordinators when for the first time government policy will be formulated by those expected to

Mr Butcher said: "We will allow the people who will deliver the policy to be part of the team developing the policy. This is not a case of a minister driving through an agenda. We will write the agenda together, decide the policy together and then drive it through together.

*Complete openness is very much in order. The co-ordinators must feel they are not constrained in any way in the candour of the advice they can offer. It is a long time since I have been so impressed by a group of people. These very intelligent people come to the discussion table with a real commitment and could have a real effect on the problems in

The meeting will discuss how the co-ordinators can best advise schools in developing drugs education before the introduction of the national curriculum and how to improve the quality of drugs education in schools through better co-operation with the Department of Education and

Mr Butcher said: "The co-

range of proposals which Details of the anti-drugs could be different from region to region. What would be acceptable in Newcastle for example might not be ideal in

> Mr Butcher will also be discussing the financing of the co-ordinators, many of them former teachers with an average age of about 25. They are paid by annual Educational Support Grants. The grants have been fixed for a further year but Mr Butcher is hoping to organize a more permanent arrangement.

He said: "The fight against drugs is going to be a long, hard slog. It will involve a great deal of sophistication. We are fighting a guerrilla war, not a frontal war, and guerrilla warfare is only won by getting better intelligence and targeting resources on the major sources of the problem."

Mr Butcher is confident the new programme can be successful: "If by winning we mean a gradual reduction in the proportion of youngsters trapped by drugs and booze then we can win. And we will win mainly through preventative work carried out locally and long term.

"We have always taken drugs very seriously but are now better informed on the nature of the problem. How successful we are in dealing with it means that young lives are either ruined or not ruined. And that is a rather ordinators will be working chilling motivation."

A girl aged four is looking forward to starting school full time in the new year after spending more than two years on a life-support machine with Alicia Leston-Rama

eralysed from the neck down in a road accident near her home in Cardiff. For 16 months after the accident she was treated in the intensive care unit at the University Hospital of Wales, moving to the children's ward a year ago. Her mother said Alicia talks normally and is always cheerful and happy, although

and life support machines in-definitely. "She gets on very well with all the staff." Her parents expected her to return home at the end of this year but the local council is still converting their home to

she will need constant nursing

cope with her disabilities. The condition of her sister Juanita, aged six, who has spina bifida, is deteriorating and the £90,000 conversion has to allow for two severely disabled children.

Alicia, who still has no attends a special school for the disabled one day a week, but is expected to attend full time in the new year, with a £35,000

Mrs Sandra Leston-Rama her mother, visits her daughter every day and takes ber for a walk in her wheelchair.

"We are preparing a big party which will be attended by the Lord Mayor and May-oress of Cardiff. They said they wanted to see Alicia into

In the new year Mrs Leston Rama will take a six-week course in caring for her daugh-ter, including how to monitor and operate the high-technol-

She and her husband Jose have also raised £32,000 in the last year through sponsored events to pay for the extra costs when Alicia goes home.

authority has paid more than £330,000 for the girl's care

to death after crash

By A Staff Reporter

Two youths were burnt to death when their car hit a tree and burst into flames in the early hours of yesterday morning. The driver is said to have

been drinking. The car hit a tree shortly after midnight in the village of Aldbourne, four miles from Swindon, the home town of the two who died, who were both aged 17. Another 17-year-old was thrown clear. People living near by tried unsuccessfuly to put out the fire which followed the crash.

A police spokesman said: "The cause of the accident is quiries are continuing. We have evidence that the driver had been drinking prior to the accident."

Dorset police were yes terday investigating the discovery on Christmas Eve of the body of a cyclist aged 50. The man had been run down as he crossed a bridge,

Mrs Phyllis Neenan, aged 79, of Stokenchurch, Buckinghamshire, died yesterday when her car was involved in a collision in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Mr Joseph Kerney, aged 28, of West Drayton, west London, died after his car hit a tree in Slough, Berkshire on Chrisimas Eve. On the same day a motorcyclist died after an accident involving a bus on the A131 at Great Leighs near Braintree, Essex.

A youth aged 17 who was killed by a hit-and-run driver in Milton Keynes last Friday was run over by another five vehicles, including two lorries, police said yesterday. Only two of the cars stopped.

A young mother died yes terday, a week after her husband was killed in a car crash which also badly injured their baby son. Mrs Alison Handley, aged 28, had been on a life support machine in Frenchay Hospital, near Bristol, since the accident in the Cotswolds

Two burnt | Seven murdered in Christmas carnage

By Mark Souster

investigated yesterday after a violent Christmas weekend.

In the West Midlands, the killer of a man found dying from stab wounds outside an ambulance station in Dudley, Hereford and Worcester, was being hunted.

The victim was named by police as Roy John Kucharski, aged 37, whose last known address was at Crawley, Sussex. Mr Kucharski was believed to be visiting family in the area over the holiday

Police are investigating possible links between the murder and two other incidents in the town on the same night.

In one, a youth aged, 17, was cut on the face after a fight outside a discothèque, and in an earlier fracas a group of youths were involved in a disturbance after an off-licence was raided.

Det Supt Derek Ford, said: The murder weapon has not been found, but we believe a double-bladed knife more than two-and-a-half inches long was used." In Redditch, in Hereford

and Worcester, a man died in police custody two hours after being arrested for drunkenness. A post mortem examination revealed he died from massive internal injuries. Police said the man may have been involved in a distur-

Seven murders were being bance at a public house before his arrest.

> Yesterday police named two men whose bodies were found with multiple stab wounds after what appeared to be a dockside knife fight at Exmouth, Devon. Mr Clifford Haylett, aged 22, of Langstone Drive, Exmouth, and Mr David Edward Clifford, aged 29, of Upper Park Road, Brightlingsea, Essex, were found dead at Exmouth docks. A third man was being questioned by police.

A woman, aged 45, was being questioned by detectives yesterday after the death of a lorry driver, aged 43, from a stab wound. She is expected to appear at a special court today in connection with the death of Mr Christopher Nolan, who was found by police on Christmas Eve in his home in Canterbury Avenue, Bradford, West Yorkshire.

A man will also appear in court today in Derbyshire accused of the murder of fiveweek-old Simone Price, found dead at her home in Blackwell near Chesterfield, Derbyshire, on Friday.

Further south, Mr Mohammed Razak, aged 21, will appear in court today at Crawley, West Sussex, accused of murdering his elder brother Abdul, aged 24, at the family's home in Tatham Court, Crawley, Sussex.

Print clue to murderer

of a young woman photographer are waiting to match genetic fingerprints with a list of suspects.

Forensic scientists are working over Christmas to find clues on the clothing and under the fingernails of Lor-raine Benson, aged 22. Police are linking her murder to the and if they turn anything up Norbiton rapist, who has we have a number of people struck three times before, but we shall be comparing them they will not be certain until

Detectives hunting the killer DNA testing has been comple-

Miss Benson was attacked as she walked from Raynes Park railway station, south London, early last week. She was strangled and her body dumped in undergrowth.

A detective said: "We're still waiting for the test results

Improving old records

Discovery removes scratches

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

original performance from detoriating gramophone records, using a technique that removes the noise caused by scratches and other deteriora-

The system has been used to remake as diverse a range of artists as Ravel conducting Bolero in 1932: Andres Segovia the Andrews Sisters, "Live Dead" and "Europe 72"

by the Grateful Dead. It has also been used in forensic science tests, rendering a taped conversation between a murderer and the victim audible above back-

The invention, called No Noise, is the latest advance in the use of so-called artificially intelligent computers for the analysis of electronic signals for military communications and industrial purposes.

Old recordings of music can be The discovery, by Sonic Sol-recreated as faithfully as the utions, in San Francisco, California, simply takes the noise out of old recordings. Using artificial intelligence. it can even reconstruct short

ieces of missing music. Two processes are used. One removes brief noise like clicks and another removes The NoNoise system is used

primarily to remaster old recordings for release on compact discs since that medium should be noise-free regardless of the original condition of the recording. NoNoise begins by making

a digital tape recording of the original master, whether it is on tape, film or an old 78rpm record. Tapes are then loaded on to a large-capacity com-

For de-clicking, the system reconstructs the problem por-

analysing the content before and after the click, and interpolating the portion in-be-tween. Since the duration of the click is short, the process can sample enough of the surrounding material to make plausible guesses about the portion hidden by the noise.

Removing steady noise, like hiss, is a longer process. The system first samples the noise at 2,000 points in the frequency spectrum, creating a sonic fingerprint used to differentiate between noise

Tests are then run to determine the maximum level of noise reduction possible without altering content More than 53 million computations are performed to

clean up one second of material. To clean up the master for a typical compact disc, the com-

"Our son was like a caged animal. Barnardo's turned him into a little boy."



"Alex was caged within himself. withdrawn and terribly disruptive. It was frustration that he couldn't hear us, he couldn't talk to us.

"He had two moods, one where he was rushing around and breaking things, the other where he would never leave my side.

"He shattered the back window twice in a few weeks - he just didn't understand it was wrong.

"I used to get up in the mornings and think 'How am I going to cope'. Then his speech therapist suggested we see a Barnardo's Day Care Centre."

The aim of Barnardo's Day Care Centres is to care for children between 2 and 5 with special needs. They may be at risk in some way, or have specific disabilities. "At first I said no, because it was

admitting that something was wrong with our child, but you'll do anything if it is going to help." We try to maintain a ratio of one

carer to three or four children, but our

their children better than we ever can, so they're always welcome, and we learn a lot from them.

parents are the experts. They know

ALEX S. HAD SEVELE SPEECH AND BERAVIOLICAL PROBLEMS, IN ABORTHS AZ A BARNARDQ'S DAY CABB CENTRE BROUGHT HUM BACK INTO THE KNAL WORLD

"My immediate and lasting imression when we first arrived was that I no longer had to apologise for Alex they'd seen it all before. Every child is accepted for what they are, it's as if no behaviour could disrupt or dismay the Barnardo's staff.'

It's a 50/50 operation with the parents. An individual profile is drawn up, identifying the areas of development for each child. We discuss their progress constantly and the notes and

plans are always available for parents

"When Alex went in he had a vocabulary of 20 words if you listened hard. He was hard to handle, and not much pleasure to be with. Now he's a happy and lovable little boy, and his vocabulary is huge."

Alex spent eighteen months coming to the Day Care Centre, and he's now in a proper school.

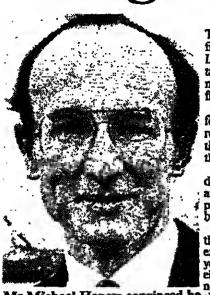
"His metamorphosis is almost complete. We recently attended a christening, and for the first time I didn't have to slip out of the church with him. I watched my son, and was proud of him.

"If it wasn't for Barnardo's I don't know what would have happened to us."



If you'd like further information or would like to make a donation, write to: Barnardo's, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IG6 10G

The golden link road that is splitting Limehouse



Mr Michael Honey: convinced he about £550 million.

By David Nicholson-Lord

The view of Canary Wharf's triple towers from the site of Pat Eales's council flat in Limehouse should, one day, be breath-taking. Almost certainly, Mrs Eales will not be there to enjoy it. Neither will her

Mrs Eales, aged 43 and the mother of four, is in the front line of dockland regeneration in London which requires the demolition of at least 114 homes with

the hlighting of hundreds more. She and her family have lived in docklands for generations, and are among 2,000 people who are unwilling participants in an experiment that could be repeated throughout urban Britain.

To cope with the traffic generated by the 200,000 jobs and 30,000 more houses expected in docklands over the next 10 years, the London Docklands Development Corporation is proposing a network of 20 road schemes costing

In the new year, Mr Nicholas Ridley,

Secretary of State for the Environment, will announce his decision on a public inquiry into compulsory purchase orders for the Limehouse link road, servicing Canary Wharf and the Isle of Dogs. Most people expect that he will sanction it. Corkscrewed tortuously through the urban fabric and burrowing 140ft below Limehouse Basin, the link road will not only be an extraordinary feat of engineering it will be one of the most expensive

stretches of road yet built. Its 1,855 yards of four-lane tunnel will cost more than £140 million to build, with a further £100 million for social costs and environmental protection roughly £130,000 a yard.

The corporation says it has adopted a design which will minimise disturbance from construction.

Mr Michael Honey, the corporation chief executive, said: "Given that it is essential to have a road like this to bring life back into east London, I don't think you can imagine a less harmful solution

for the community or the environment". Among those who disagree are the Docklands Consultative Comminee, representing local authorities and neighbourhood organizations. Mr Bob Colenutt, head of its support unit,

angrily spreads out a map of the link road. "What does this really do?" he asks. "It's just a grammous exercise in macho planning. It's the planning of the 1960s. It is also outrageously cost-in-

Critics say the corportion has abandoned strategic planning, reacted too speedily to the whims of developers and thrown in its lot with the motorist.

Worse, they say it is about to commit one of the cardinal sins of Londoo traffic planners - building a radial road close to the heart of the city to suck in

more cars and redistribute the jams.

The need for a new transport infrastructure in east London is acknowledged on both sides. The argument is on where the money should be spent.

The corporation acknowledges that the link conflicts with both London-wide and local plans, but says these have been overtaken by development in dock-

Mr Colenutt argues that the developmental role of new roads has become irrelevant: docklands' record on attracting new homes and industry is now established. Action is instead needed to curb road commuters. Yet Canary Wharf, he says, will provide five times as many car parking spaces as laid down in the Greater London development plan. And the link road's cost of more than £240 million is a grotesque extravagance when set against the estimated £200 million it would cost to extend the Docklands Light Railway south to

Lewisham. Leading opponents of the scheme include Dr Martin Mogridge, an expert in London traffic, who says that the corporation has absorbed from developers and businessmen the conventional

road congestion is more road space. Dr Mogridge's equilibrium theory argues that people will choose between public and private transport in such a way as to

render both equally slow.

The way to free road space in docklands is more rail, underground and bus links. The Limehouse link, he says, will be like Westway - a "super road with horrendous bottlenecks at each

He believes the corporation has overprovided for car users on the late of Dogs and is motivated more by obligations to developers. "The Limehouse link is not

going to help because the number of people it shifts is really marginal. "We have not taken on board what Buchanan said 25 years ago and, indeed, what people have been saying all this century - that it is not possible to build enough road space because too many of us want to travel by car."

Tomorrow: the impact on the community

Ministers face call for big expansion in nursery education

of nursery schools, or because

parents are seeking to push

their children too far too early.

children aged five or six and

deal with their age groups. They are overwhelmed by

their surroundings and put off

learning because they cannot

As things stand, it is not

authorities to provide nursery

education. However, the 1944 Education Act said they

vision". A 1972 White Paper

three and 90 per cent pro-

Museums for the future

Training given high priority

Security staff in museums and staff from warders to direc- were part of the urgent need

Last year a Museums and

Galleries Commission report

existing training and its rele-

vance to the needs of modern

museums. The minister is ex-

pected to announce proposals

Miss Smith said: "We

museums themselves wanted, then form a list of priorities

which could be made into the

units for computer-based

She and a team of research-

local and independent muse-

tions such as Dover Castle,

and 11 priorities emerged.

open-learning packages".

early in the new year.

galleries want to know more tors, which Mr Luce has

Education has emerged as a disclosed dissatisfaction with

for the Arts, after the Christ-needed to find out what the

executive at Macmillan Intek first modular programmes

display, and while some are ers did in-depth interviews

extremely knowledgeable over six months at national.

helpful because they did not ums and at heritage attrac-

basis of a computer-based The warders' learning

training programme for all needs, the team discovered,

about the collections they declared a priority for 1989.

The committee found that

The result is that these children are put in classes with

child under five whose parents require it, a parliamentary

inquiry has concluded. The Government should allocate funding for a steady expansion of nurscry education until that target is achieved, the Conservative-controlled education select committee will say in a report to be published next year.

Just 44 per cent of under local education authorities of more than £400 million a year. However, in a report that will embarrass the Government, the MPs will say that a substantial and costly expansion compulsory for local eduction is required.

The MPs have, after a ninemonth investigation that included a fact-finding trip to should "have regard to the the United States, concluded need for procuring that prothat nursery education is critical in today's society.

The report will highlight the provision for all children aged escalating numbers of only children and children from vision for those aged four. broken families whose mothers go out to work and say that these targets were not being it is no longer safe for children reached, largely through lack to play together in streets or of resources, in spite of a clear public places. The MPs be- demand from parents, and lieve that large numbers of that the existing provision was under fives are therefore being inadequate, lagging far behind of the committee is the deprived of the attention and many other European status of nursery teachers.

The committee, chaired by mer Conservative minister, and in France it is 95 per cent. available on training courses.

guard - so they can talk about

priority in a £35,000 survey

ordered by the Office of Arts

and Libraries and paid for by

the National Training Coun-

cil. The report will be studied by Mr Richard Luce, Minister

Miss Heather Smith, project

which compiled the report,

said: "We found that warders

were constantly being asked

about paintings or items on

many felt frustrated and un-

The findings will be the

Nursery education should be will also criticize the practice. It also discovered huge variprovided by the state for every of some primary schools of ations between different eduputting under fives into reception authorities. Gloucestertion classes with older child-shire provided no nursery education while Hounslow, ren. That happens because schools are experiencing fall- west London, provided places ing rolls and want to keep up for 66 per cent of its under numbers, or because of a lack fives.

The MPs, who believe that parents are being deprived of choice, will call for a national

nursery education policy.

They will say that until authorities are providing nursfives attend nursery schools or with teachers not trained to nursery classes at a cost to deal with their age groups. They are overwhelmed by they should give priority to ehildren in greatest need such as those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

They will also emphasize that universal provision will not mean that parents cannot keep their children at home until the statutory age of five if they wish or that they cannot choose to send their children to playgroups or other such alternatives.

set targets of 50 per cent The committee believes that the Department of Education and Science should conduct a comprehensive nationwide survey with the Department of Employment into the demand for nursery

Another particular concern of the committee is the low

In Belgium, 96 per cent of be taken to enhance their Mr Timothy Raison, the for- under fives are provided for position, with more places

for understanding of customer

Next on the list was the care

and best use of collections, fol-

lowed by preventative conser-

vation and communicating as

a manager with staff. Courses

on basics such as the purpose

intepretation of collections for

marketing and budgeting are

There will eventually be

about fifty courses of 15 to 20

hours each, and some will

carry qualifications with ass-

The system will be run jointly by the Museums Association and the Museums

and Galleries Commission,

both represented on a steering

group chaired by a senior member of the minister's staff

which meets at the end of next

ints by tutors.

museums today,

best public benefit.

Warm spell takes chill off seasonal dip



Swimmers preparing to take the plunge yesterday at the annual Christmas Day race on the Serpentine, central London, where the weather was the warmest since 1974. Race veteran Maurice Connor, aged 77, was among competitors who dived in without the usual coating of grease to ward off the winter cold.

Fleming rescued

By Sarah Jane Checkland Art Market Correspondent

The Nobel Prize medal of Sir Alexander Fleming, the father of penicillin, has been saved from sale at Sotheby's after legal action by the medical pioneer's son.

The move comes after an attempt by members of the family of Sir Alexander's second wife, Amalia, to sell the medal, along with an extensive collection of honours worth an estimated £25,000.

The Nobel Prize award was to have been the star attraction at Sotheby's medal sale last month. It was withdrawn when Sir Alexander's son and only surviving relative, Dr Robert Fleming, a general practitioner in Cambridgeshire, took out an injunction. The medals "appear to have been released to unknown

persons", he said. Mr Colin Franke, of Dr Fleming's solicitors Clyde & Co, said: "We obtained a consent order entailing the consent of all the parties involved, and the medals are no longer up for auction. There are now no plans to sell them, and they are in the custody of our bankers,"

Private transport Bills

Light rail schemes gain in popularity

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

to deal with what is probably a record number of private Bills seeking sanction for the BAA, formerly the British construction of new railways or for the development of existing ones,

In a typical session over the past 10 or 20 years there would have been perhaps two Bills from British Rail, seeking permission to extend or modify a line, and probably one from London Regional Trans-

This session there are 17

railway Bills. They include British Rail and London Regional Transport seeking authority to levy

When Parliament resumes penalties on fare dodgers, to this increase in Bills. early next month it will have Tyne and Wear Metro seeking Light railways are the approval to extend its system to Newcastle Airport and the

> Heathrow Airport. There is usually only one Commons, and that is in November each year.

> About half of the railway Bills now before Parliament have been carried over from the session which began in November last year, the other half having been laid last month. It is the popularity of

Light railways are the mod-ern version of the traditional trams, which largely disappeared from Britain's streets during the years after the Second World War. Airports Authority, proposing a fast rail link from London to

They run on dedicated tracks, mostly segregated from opportunity for private Bills other traffic, or on disused to be laid before the House of railway lines, but they may also run on streets.

Manchester, which is inviting tenders for the first phase of its project, as well as Leeds, the West Midlands, Sheffield and Bristol.

There is also a £200 million

lands Light Railway to

Mr Michael Taplin, chair-man of the Light Rail Transit Association, says light railways have much greater passenger appeal than buses.

Because they are to a large extent segregated from other traffic, they can move more freely and are unimpeded by congestion. They are cheaper Schemes are now being to build than underground promoted in Parliament for railways and, he says, can provide almost as much capacity. He says they are be coming more popular because it has been realized that cities cannot rely on cars to cope with passenger transport

UK has fewest road deaths in Western Europe The United Kingdom has the than the UK, but France had lowest number of deaths in 21.7 deaths per 100,000 between jns 11 and 12 (A38/M42) road accidents, relative to the people Although Belgium and road accidents, relative to the people Although Belgium and road accidents.

country in Western Europe, according to a recent study. Statistics published by the

Department of Transport show that in 1986 the number of road deaths was 9.9 per 100,000 population. Among EEC countries The Netherlands and Ireland had

an only slightly worse record

ownership figures per head of population, Belgium's fatality rate is twice as high. Motorway repairs until Janu-

the UK have similar vehicle

South-east

M25 Surrey: contraflow between jns t2 and 13 (M3/Staines).

M40 Buckinghamshire: eastbound traffic reduced to one fane between jns 4 and 5 (Wycombe/Stokenchurch) 9.30am to 4pm. Work will be suspended between December

23 and January 3.

10.00

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The North M62 West Yorkshire: lane closures in both directions between jns 24 and 25 (Ainley Top/Huddersfield). M180 Hamberside: drainage

work with lane closures east of Brigg, M63 Greater Manchester: contraffow between jns 3 and 6 (Barton/A6144).

Midlands Information compiled and sup-M5 Hereford and Worcester: plied by AA Roadwatch

WHITEHALL BRIEF by David Walker

Bridging the culture gap in the numbers game vant) "gave him some clout", which

the Civil Servant who best symbolizes Whitehall in the eighties, Sir Anthony Wilson, who retires as Head of the Government Accountancy Service at the end of the week. would make a strong candidate.

A recruit to Whitehall from the City (after a long, upwardly-mobile career at Price Waterhouse). Sir Anthony has, during his tenure as the Government Accountancy Adviser from 1984-88, stood astride the great cultural shift in public administration in this decade.

That is to say, "financial literacy": the ability to handle numbers or, at. its crudest, ensuring that public officials spending taxpayers' money can actually count. If they can handle the numbers better now, it is partly because there are more accountants about, partly because Whitehall careers now hinge (to some extent) on numeracy, though formal training in accountancy techniques for all

officials is a long, long way off.
Not a possessor of the grand style, Sir Anthony makes no personal claims beyond a recognition that his private sector career and the seniority at which he was appointed (that is to say a salary a third as much again as paid to the most senior Civil Scr-

he has used on accountants' pay. He has been a creature rather than an instigator of the financial management initiative, launched in Whitehall by Mrs Margaret Thatcher in 1982, but has had something to do with the continuous push since toimprove public accounting. Together - some say - these amount to a revolution in the way the Civil Service operates.

As head of profession, Sir Anthony's job has been to look after the 800-odd professional accountants in the Civil Service and the standards in their peculiar work of keeping accounts outside the commercial

discipline of profit and loss. By bringing in someone such as Sir Anthony (an experiment which is 10 be repeated with the appointment of Mr Alan Hardcastle from Peat Marwick to replace him) the Government got someone with, if not a bridge, then at least a ready-made set of planks into the private sector. In addition, perhaps less welcome, they got a professional prepared to say, albeit in the husbed tones necessary when you are just down the corridor from the Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, that Whitehall had to pay!

more for its impresarios

To succeed, Sir Anthony says, the initiative required a doubling or even a trebling of the number of qualified accountants, and Whitehall

Pay, nonetheless, is a pressing issue still. He persuaded the Treasury to pay a special financial allowance, making their salaries marginally more competitive with accountants in private practice. But the difference is still striking, and the result is a considerable shortfall in Civil Service skills.

Estimating the gap at up to 100 qualified accountants, Sir Anthony adds that the cost of not having them is that Whitehall does not make full use of management information. He cites the Inland Revenue, where more accountants would make "quite an impact" if they were put to work on tax assessment and collection. "But a great deal of progress has been made. We are moving towards more numerical and financial literacy. It's just that as you become more effective in generating management information, the greater the need for specialist skills to handle

it", he said. And for the future? Shouldn't all public officials be trained in the black arts of auditing and account management - there, surely, would be a revolution in the way Whitehall works? Sir Anthony bequeathes that to his successor contenting himself with observing that officials on their way up the career ladder now have greater opportunity to take training courses or at least brush up against the requisite skills.

He leaves, too, a job which must change considerably if Whitehall moves down the path of hiving chunks of executive work into semiautonomous agencies and letting their managers run their own show. Why should the chief executive of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre or Her Majesty's Stationery Office heed a Treasury-based Accountancy Adviser? No analogous operating officer in the private sector has to worry about a professional big-wig.

Sir Anthony acknowledges that Whitehall has still not got the hang of moving people in and out of the private sector. Private accountants are reluctant to come in (because of money, because of a fear of losing out in their career moves) and public accountants are sometimes inclined to go out (for the money, because their employers don't appreciate them) and never return.

BCal in Hong Kong

Airline that refuses to die

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Six days a week a jumbo jet in British Caledonian livery, with cahin staff still in the familiar tortan uniform, and using the old BCal call sign, BR 7382, takes off from Gatwick bound for Hong Kong - nearly a year after the airline was formally swallowed up by British Airways.

The "time warp" flights are the last remaining vestiges of Sir Adam Thomson's airline and look set to continue for many months.

Following the take-over of BCal by BA, the Hong Kong Government refused to accept British Airways flights from Gatwiek, insisting that they remain BCal until a new air services agreement could be thrashed out between Britain and Hong Kong.

This meant that the only able future. remaining British Caledonian ticket office and sales shop in the world had to remain open in the colony, staffed by local people still wearing the same tarian uniform and selling

British Caledonian tickets for

old BR call sign. The Hong Kong authorities also insisted that the aircraft remain in BCal colours and to try to resolve the dispute, that the cabin crew were but the chances of success dressed in BCal tartan seem slight. uniforms

be allowed to complete their massive repainting and rewho were based in Hong Kong permanently need wear the white hlouses and kilts which had proved so popular among BCal girls.

Now there are at least two Chinese girls on every flight in the old uniform and four

No-one in British Airways likes to be reminded of the last fly as often as they like. part of the old airline which

flights which had to use the transformed into a British Airways base. Talks are to take place in February with the Hong Kong Government

For three airlines are now Pleas by British Airways to officially designated to operate between Hong Kong and London - BA, Cathay Pacific uniforming were turned and as far as the Hong Kong down, although it was even- authorities are concerned, tually agreed that only staff BCal.

Each has the right to fly up to ten services a week and Cathay Pacific want to be able to match the combined services of both BA and BCal before they will recognise the take over.

But British Airways is Boeing 747s will remain in the unwilling to see Cathay bring BCal colours for the foresee- so many extra flights on to the route and instead is arguing that everyone should be free to

In the meantime they are will not die and the aircraft are forced to maintain the tiny kept as far away from public rump of BCal, the airline view as possible at Garwick which they are not being which has otherwise been allowed to forget.

American media foresees a dawning age of enlightenment

From Charles Bremner New York

After a decade of old-fashioned pursuit of money and status, Americans and the citizens of the other rich countries will, as the planet runs low on space and resources, turn in the closing years of the century to spiritual fulfilment.

This vision of an "inner-directed" American, less concerned with "success", has emerged from studies and articles this month suggesting that the country is about to take up where it left off in the mid-1970s, worrying about the environment and believing that "small is beautiful".

Time magazine, for instance, which usually announces its "Man of the Year" on the last weekend in December, yesterday broke for only the second time its 61-year tradition of naming a person to proclaim "The Endangered Earth" as its "Planet of the Year".

The news magazine warned of impending catastrophe, saying that, in 1988 "everyone suddenly sensed that this gyrating globe, this in danger. No single individual, no event, no movement captured imaginations or dominated headlines more than the clump of rock and soil and water and air that is our common home.

"Now, more than ever, the world needs leaders who can inspire their fellow citizens with a fiery sense of mission, not a nationalistic or military campaign but a universal crusade to save the planet." Time's previous break with tradition was when it named the computer in 1982.

"Farth anxiety" is reflected to a historic shift in social values that was predicted this month by the World Future Society, a 22-year-old Washington concern that studies trends and provides forecasts for business and government. "We are clearly in the midst of what may be called a paradigm shift -a fundamental reordering of the way we see the world around us," the society's magazine, The Futurist, says in its edition for next month. This shift from "outer-directed" to "innerdirected" views of the world responds, it said, to

the transition from the post-war faith in

several bold choices. One of

the most important is the

selection of former Congress-

man Jack Kemp, an out-

spoken rival for the Repub-

lican nomination and an

articulate spokesman for the

By putting him in charge of some of the most complex

challenges facing the new

Administration, inner-city de-

cay, homelessness, poverty

and the problems of racial ghettos, Mr Bush has given

high visibility and priority to

an area of policy badly ne-

Mr Bush made it clear with

his selection of Dr Sullivan,

that he was under no obliga-

tioo to conservatives or the

ioterest groups that backed

Despite the angry objec-

tions of anti-abortion ac-

tivists, he went ahead with the

nomination of a man who had

expressed private support for

a woman's right to an abor-

tion, though quickly modify-

ing his stance to fit in with Mr

The most controversial

nomination has been that of

Mr. Tower to the Defence

Department. Mr Bush, who

regards loyalty as the supreme

political virtue, felt obliged to

go ahead with his virtual

campaign commitment to re-

ward Mr Tower's strong

But the agonizing and

drawn-out investigation of the

Texan's views and personal

life has left him weakened. He

will have a hard job in

modifying his long-standing

views on defence to fit in with

the new financial stringency.

SUPPORT.

party's conservative wing

precious repository of all the life we know of, was expanding horizons to the new sense of lowered patriotism, very strong in America of the 1980s. expectations and a sense of limits. People would no longer give such priority to "following rules and owning the material goods that society acknowledges as valuable". Instead, people will seek "personal expression and creativity" and inner harmony".

Many mainstream commentators have identi-

• The country seems about to take up where it left off in the 1970s, believing that small is beautiful

fied various signs in American society in recent months to make similar predictions for the fin de siecle. One widely-quoted statistic, for example, shows that incomes have io fact declined since the late 1950s and that the current younger generation is the first in America ever to expect its standard of living to be lower than was its parents. The Futurist contrasted what it said were the axis of old versus new values. For example,

will give way to a loss of nationalism; quality of life will replace standard of living; hero worship will decline in favour of "love of ideas".

Reinforcing the view of a physically limited future, the society issued a separate study summarizing predictions of a crippling world shortage of electricity by the end of the century. With the demise of nuclear power and the retirement of obsolete power stations, America could face black-outs and a disrupted economy, it said. Articles in The Futurist and other "life-style" magazines have been predicting a new emphasis on the psychological side of illness and the role of

spiritual well-being in promoting bealth. All this, of course, ties in with the fast-expanding interest in "New Age" thinking — the vaguely defined blend of religion, computers, cosmology, astrology, technology and mysticism that emerged from California a few years ago. According to Omni, one of the glossiest of the New Age magazines, science is on the brink of

advances in understanding the brain that could

make "mind travel" easily available.

After a heavy day at the office, for example, you should soon have a mystical alternative to a double Scotch. You put on a helmet and flip a switch. Seconds later you rise above your body, and take yourself to somewhere of your choice for a walk along the beach. Researchers at Laurentian University at Sudbury, Canada, have already

developed a prototype, the magazine said.

Though most of the talk about a return to spiritual pursuits is coming from the New Agers. America's churches alre also reporting a renewed

interest in religion among the young.

A survey this year revealed that 43 per cent of American adults said that they had undergone mystical experiences.

Omní, which is packed with full-colour advertising for expensive cars, stereo equipment and even cigarettes, goes so far as to provide a set of exercises, including sleep deprivation although it warns that you should "check with your therapist first" - for inducing such states.

Woman given Cabinet job

Bush moves to heal personal rift with Dole appointment

President-elect George Bush of important agencies outside ment. Mr Bush has made on Christmas Eve named Mrs the Cabinet. Elizabeth Dole to be his The new to Secretary of Labour, winning praise from Democrats and union leaders for choosing a woman to run so important a Cabinet department.

Mrs Dole, who is the wife of Senator Robert Dole, the Senate Republican leader, was President Reagan's Secretary of Transport for more than

She had six years on the Federal Trade Commission, and left the Reagan Cabinet last year to assist in her husband's bitter presidential nominatioo campaign against

Her appointment is an important signal by Mr Bush that he wants to heal the deep personal rift between himself and Senator Dole.

Mr Bush praised her experience and stature, and his surprise choice was quickly endorsed by Mr Lane Kirkland, the president of the AFL-CIO, the US confederation of trade unions.

Senator Edward Kennedy, the Democratic chairman of the Senate Labour and Human Resources Committee. said Mrs Dole was an "ex-edient choice".

Senator Dole, with his usual dry wit, said: "It looks like TV dinners for me again, but I'll still probably vote for her confirmation.

With Mrs Dole's nomination, Mr Busb has filled all but two posts in his 17-member Cabinet. He has still to name a Secretary of Energy and the drug supremo he promised during his campaign. He has also selected most of the heads

The new team has already won wide praise for its experience, calibre and political In it are people to satisfy most of the main interest

groups: a black (Dr Louis Sullivan, Secretary of Health and Human Services), two Hispanics (Mr Lauro Cavazos at Education, and Mr Manuel Lujan at the Interior Depart-ment), two women (Mrs Dole and Mrs Carla Hills, the US
Trade Representative), an environmentalist (Mr William Reilly, who will head the Environmental Protection Agency), two prominent conservatives (Mr John Tower, a former Senator, at the Pentagon and Mr Jack Kemp at Housing and Urban Development), and several prom-

Administration. Unlike the cronies and zealots brought in from California with President Reagan, Mr Bush's team is drawn broadly from the mainstream of the Republican political establish-

inent members of the Reagan



Mrs Elizabeth Dole: Experience and stature praised.

Kremlin concern on rebuilding

From Mary Dejevsky Moscow

Transport delays and inadequate distribution are still handicapping the relief spera-tion in Armenia, almost three weeks after the December 7 earthquake. Meanwhile Soviet Government ministers have held a special meeting to discuss the scale of the re-

building programme.
The Polithuro Commission overseeing the relief operation said in its report on Saturday that many important tasks were still not being tackled efficiently enough. One of the chief problems was the delay in unloading trains, which then blocked the railway lines and prevented other trains

It had been hoped that 2,000 trucks a day would be en-loaded, but this target was not being met. Moreover, addi-tional rails and sidings that would allow more trains to be nnloaded had not been completed.

"We shall have to tackle some questions again from the beginning," the commission said. It complained that there was insufficient co-ordination between different forms of transport and supplies were not getting where they were needed fast enough.

Some machinery was standing around idle when it was urgently required elsewhere. Large consignments of light

tents had been distributed which were not used, while some construction brigades were still without warm tents or caravans to live in. There were not enough mattresses, blankets, sleeping bags and crockery, and hygiene at feeding centres needed to be monitored more strictly.

The dimensions and likely cost of rebuilding the devastated areas were revealed after the special meeting. more than four million square metres of housing would have to be built during the next two years, schools for 63,000 pupils, and hospitals with almost 5,000 beds were needed. In the countryside, more than 150



John Bush, the son of United States President-elect George Bush, visiting the scene of the Armenian earthquake yesterday with his son George, aged 12. After flying into Yerevan aboard a DC-8 cargo plane, they toured the disaster zone in a bus, stopping at the town of Spitak. Later they gave gifts to children who had been injured.

partially destroyed, and 35,000 houses had been lost.

As though responding to fears that quality might be sacrificed to speed, the meeting's report emphasized that all new building would incorporate the latest earthquakeproofing techniques. It would also be designed to blend in with traditional Armenian gs. Latest estimates p the cost of rebuilding at more than six billion roubles (£6 billion), more than one third of which would be needed in

The report made clear that

sources would have to come ible and efficient distribution from other republics of the Seviet Union. Outside Armenia this has already provoked trepidation that budgets are to be cut and that waiting lists for housing, in particular, will get freight depot, while city dwelllenger. Inside Armenia, it ers wait for the fresb produce awakens fears that the extent of outside help for Armenia The sort of disposable plastic will in future be cited by and paper goods - crockery, Moscow as a reason for clamp- cutlery etc - and frozen or ing down on nationalist activity in the republic.

Unfortunately for the Soviet authorities, the earthquake relief and rebuilding programmes make great demands on some of the weakest sectors villages had been wholly or much of the money and re- of the Soviet economy. Flex-

Afghan ruler From Roger Boyes The exiled King of Afghani-

stan, Zahir Shah, aged 73, has been invited by Moscow to take part in negotiations to form a transitional government that will steer the country towards free elections.

Invitation

to exiled

The invitation follows the first direct talks at the weekend between a high-level Soviet representative, Mr Yuli Vorontsov - Ambassador to Kabul and a Deputy Foreign Minister - and the King who since 1973 has lived io a modest villa on the outskirts of Rome

The Soviet Union, committed to withdrawing its troops by February 15 next year. wants to avoid handing over to a weakened leadership that could be toppled by Islamic fundamentalists.

Although King Zahir says that be wants his country to be "Islamic, free and democratic", he has no great love for the fanatical Muslims.

The groundwork for a political settlement has been laid and the King's representatives are now expected to take part in a further, crucial round of

The transition is likely to involve the King (or a direct representative if he chooses to stay above politics) who will head a national unity government staffed largely by economists, engineers and reconstruction specialists.

He would summon a meeting of the guerrilla, tribal and religious groups — a so-called Jirga, or grand council. Within a year, the Government would move towards free elections.

• Islamabad: Mr Gulb Hekmatyar, the rebel leader, was reported yesterday as saying that the Soviet Union was at its "wits end" over Afghanistan and accused it of trying to split the Afghan Islamic alliance hy holding talks with King Zahir.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Mexico jail siege ends in 24 deaths

Mexico City (Reuter) - At least 24 people, including 19 inmates, were killed when police stormed a jail and ended a two-day siege, officials said. The Navarit state government said none of 20 hostages — guards and administrative employees — was killed, but four were injured.

Those who died in the four-hour attack included the commander of the Zorros task force from Mexico City, and the prison governor, who was killed in a gun battle between prisoners and guards when the siege began on Thursday. Police believed at first that only six prisoners were involved, but the state government said armed inmates who had hidden surprised police during the attack.

Three guards and four prisoners were arrested after the siege, which began during an escape attempt at the prison in the north-western city of Tepic. Inmates threatened to kill hostages if they were not given safe passage.

Free trade speed-up Ottawa - Speedy approval is expected of the Bill est-

ablishing the free trade zone between Canada and the United States which will be considered by the Canadian Senate tomorrow (John Best writes). It was approved by the House of Commons in the early hours of Christmas Eve. The legislation is expected to become law no later than Friday, in time to meet the January 1 deadline contained in the Canada-US free trade agreement.

Jayewardene's post

Colombo - President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka, aged 82, who will give up office on January 2 when president-elect Ranasinghe Premadasa takes over, may continue in politics as chairman of the ruling United National Party. Weekend newspaper quoted government sources as saying he was likely to be appointed at the party conference on december 31. Mr Ranjan Wijeratne has been acting chairman since Mr Harsha Abeywardene was shot dead earlier this year.

Soviet forces 'drunk'

Moscow (Reuter) - The Defence Minister, Mr Dmitry Yazov, has reprimanded Soviet forces stationed in East Germany for slack discipline and increased drunkenness, the armed forces newspaper, Krasnaya Zvezda, said yesterday. "We see cases of irresponsibility, complacency, formalism and red tape in daily life which do not receive a principled assessment from Communist Party organizations." it quoted Mr Yazov saying.

Libya challenges US

Rome (AFP) - Libya is ready to accept international inspection of what Presisent Reagan claims is a chemical weapons plant, according to the Italian Foreign Minister, Signor Giulio Andreotti. In a message to the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, he said Major Abdessalam Jailoud, Colonel Gadaffi's number two, had assured bim during a recent visit to Rome that Libya would take part in a Paris conference next month on banning such weapons.

Pluralism in Yugoslavia

Alternative party is set up Street deaths soar in Paris

From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade

A group of prominent Slovene intellectuals has announced the formation of an alternative party - the Slovene Democratic Alliance - and their intention to bold a founding congress soon.

They seek a multi-party system, free elections, and Slovene sovereignty within the Yugoslav federation, and public control over the military, police and security.

Pluralism has for some time been a magic word on the lips of many Yugoslavs, intellectuals as well as leading party politicians, but only in Slovehave moved a long way tothe Sloven experiment is arousing serious misgivings in large sections of the political establishment and mainly within the ruling Yugoslav

the conservatives is widening. controls everything. A committee has been set np in Slovenia to prepare the

congress. It includes leading Slovene intellectuals, academics, and a number of prom-

deprived its citizens of their The party was being formed nia has a breakthrough been because the existing system made as the Communists had failed and because Slovenia felt threatened by "unitar-

Speaking oo behalf of the party about to be launched, a spokesman said the present political system had kept Yugoslavia behind the rest of Europe economically and had

wards political tolerance. But ist and centralist trends" coming from other parts of Yugoslavia - meaning Serbia, whose Communist leaders, under Mr Slobodan Milosevic, represent the strongest

Communist Party where the protagonists of conservative rift between the liberals and ideas and where the party ideas and where the party

> The new party in Slovenia intends to act inside the broad froot known as the "Socialist Alliance" which has so far been no more than an appendix of the Communist Party but aims to act independently and to gain wide support among the population. At the same time, a nucleus of a Sloven Social Democratic party has been emerging on the scene and its founders intend to hold an assembly within the next few days.

Meanwhile the federal government of Mr Branko Mikulic faces an impatient opposition in Parliament with the trade union leaders of Croatia initiating procedures for a confidence vote and blaming the Government for the economic troubles.

Life in the fast lane

footwear.

is something that has long eluded the Soviet planners.

Long lines of railway trucks waiting to be unloaded can be

seen at almost any Soviet

that is rotting inside them.

dehydrated food which would

help provide hot meals in

in which the Soviet Union is

particularly backward. So is

the manufacture of lightweight

but sturdy clothing and

ic conditions are areas

has always been a nerve-

racking adventure, but figures just released bere suggest it is becoming lethal. Pedestrians account for half the road deaths in the capital. a safe passage. and almost a third of such victims this year were killed on crossings when the lights were signalling that it was safe.

According to city authorities, speed is to blame in most of the accidents, which lifted the death toll to 114 in the week before Christmas (compared with 87 for all of last year). Visitors to Paris may find it hard to believe that any driver can work up a decent pace in the ever-present traffic congestion, but locals know it is every man for himself once off the pavement.

Take the busy pedestrian crossing in front of the Opera, just round the corner from the

From Philip Jacobson, Paris Crossing busy streets in Paris office of The Times. Morning world's most impatient and and evening, weekdays and holidays, this is no place for

the faint-hearted, the elderly or those naive enough to believe that green lights mean In the Parisians' unremit-

metre's advantage over the next car, drivers will put their foot down and swerve between the crowd while kamikaze motor cyclists slalom through from every direction. Sometimes you actually feel the wind of their passing, close enough to brush the tail of a raincoat or flick a briefcase.

strikes in Paris greatly in-Opera crossing became even busier, with a steady stream of pedestrians ignoring the red is still a city where hus signal. This so maddened the beings can stroll around."

selfish motorists that they. too, began ignoring the lights. Byt some old hands here see signs that the pedestrian worm

is turning. There are reports of umhrella and walking-stick attacks on lights-jumping cars, ting battle to snatch half a of roofs being dented and headlights shattered. A fellow correspondent saw one young man land a karate kick on a car that passed too close for his comfort on a crossing, then swing a punch at a marauding

Let us leave the last word to M George Sarre, Secretary of State for Transport and by the The recent public transport sound of him a man who appreciates the delights of creased the number of walk- walking around the City of ers, which meant that the Light. "In Paris, the car has not completely defeated mankind," he said recently. "This is still a city where human

Experts read different things into ancient book

By Rita Reif and Alan Cowell

Psalms found in Egypt may be the oldest book in the world has been questioned by scholars in New York and London. "Any book of that age is a

tremendous discovery - if it is of that age," said Mr Michael Borri, manuscript librarian of the British Museum, in a telephone interview. "The precise dating of early manuscripts is impossible.

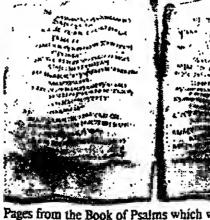
But other scholars who have studied the volume say that the book - written in Coptic, the virtually extinct language of Egypt's Coptic Christians, and bound in wood and leather and found in a child's grave 85 miles south of Cairo - is the oldest complete copy of the biblical Book of Psalms ever found and possibly the world's

The book was discovered during excavations by Egyp-

The claim that the Book of cemetery for the poor. Mr Gawdat Gabra, director of the Coptic Museum in Cairo, who has been researching the book's origins since it was discovered four years ago, said: "After a lot of work a research, the date is fairly certainly the second half of the fourth century." The inspectors found the

book, its pages stuck together, in the grave of a girl, aged about 12, Mr Gabra said. He went to the cemetery, 25 miles north of the site of the Greco-Roman city called Oxyrhynchus, from which the Coptic dialect found in the book takes its name. The Coptic script amalgamates old Greek characters and ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs.

The ancient Coptic burial tradition, Mr Gabra said, followed earlier practices, with



Pages from the Book of Psalms which was found in Egypt. gus. Initially, he said, be "It is the oldest Book of believed the book dated from Psaims written in Copin as a the fifth century. But sub-sequent research placed it in complete back it is also the oldest complete Psalms in any the fourth century, he said, language. If h is not the oldest "probably closer to the year complete book in the world, 400 than the year 350". then it is one of the oldest."

"I am 90 to 99 per cent sure Mr Gabra did not dispute the dead laid to rest with a that it is from the second half the suggestion of some schol-chapters of the Acts of the valued item in the sarcopha-of the fourth century," he said. are in the United States that Apostles, which is in the

earlier manuscripts and papyri had been found. Moreover, he New York City, and the Codex had been found. Moreover, he said, an incomplete copy of the Scheide, containing the Gospel Book of Psalms in Hebrew of St Matthew, which is at had been found in the Dead Princeton, New Jersey. Sea Scrolls dating from the first century. But, he argues, none of these

qualified as "a real book, with quires and with a book binding". A quire is a set of folded sheets fitting one within another. Four sheets folded become 16 pages of a book.

The volume of about 500 parchment pages in 32 quire is bound in wooden covers stitched with leather. It is handwritten in the Oxyrbynchas distect that was also used in two civilices, or manuscript volumes, of New Testament books now in the United States that have been dated to the fifth century.

These are the Codex Glazier, containing the first 15 chapters of the Acts of the The Egyptian book had not

been carbon dated, Mr Gabra said, since paleographic re-search had proved more precise. By this form of research, he said, each letter of the ancient script has been compared with manuscripts known to date from the same period. He said that the full research will he published next

Mr Leo Depuydt, a Belgian scholar who is cataloguing the Coptic manuscripts at the Pierpont Morgan Library, said that the volume "would be the oldest parchment book in the world if it beats the two codices". If not, "let's call them the three oldest books parchment books - in the

New York Times

Faithful and curious are drawn together for Catholic worship in China and Italy

Papal plea on sad burden of Aids Non-believers in Peking

message to make an unusually direct appeal on behalf of Aids victims, urging the world to "take up their tragic burden".

The Pope's Urbi et Orbi message, delivered in brilliant

poor, sick and bereaved.

Vatican advisers say the
Pope had been intensely
moved by the spate of natural esters and human tragedies in the past few weeks, including the Armenian earthquake and the Pan Am crash in Scotland. "How beautiful is Christmas! Yet, it is filled with

hnman misery," he said. Christmas imposed certain duties on the Christian world, said the Pope. There was, in the first place, a need for

'In a special way I am thinking of those who have been affected by the terrible earthquake in Armenia, and are now mourning their loved ones buried under the debris ... in the tragic hour may they experience the understanding and support of people of

"May the world see an increase of the generous reaction which has mobilized governments, organizations and individuals in a wonderchain of solidarity, and

The Pope yesterday used his with everyone's help may the traditional Christmas day work of reconstruction begin so that hope may spring again

in that sorely afflicted region." But the Christmas message also had something important to say about rejection — the fact that Joseph and Mary were forced to live in a stable Rome sunshine, combined the were forced to live in a stable theme of joy at the birth of in Bethlehem - and the need Christ with the misery of the to overcome prejudice. The Pope said he was praying for the sick everywhere. But above all he was con-

> Dallas (Reuter) - Thieves who stole an estimated \$5,000 (£2,700) worth of toys and gifts for needy children from a Salvation Army warehouse two days before Christmas, also helped themselves to doughnuts, officials said yesterday. Most of the Christmas gifts, calculators, pea sets, hair dryers and watches, had

> cerned about the victims of Aids who were "called to face the challenge not only of the sickness but also the mistrust of a fearful society that instinctively turns away from

"I invite everyone to take up the tragic burden of these brethren of ours, and, as I assure them of my deep affection, I exhort scientists and efforts to find an effective your homes always."

treatment for this mysterious

The appeal was remarkably blunt, and given prominence in an address broadcast to scores of countries.

There has been some ambiguity on the part of the Church about Aids. Some traditionalist bishops have been talking about Aids as the wages of sin and even more enlightened members of the church hierarchy have been unsure how far their concerns for Aids sufferers could be construed as a form of sponsorship for high risk groups such as homosexuals, prostitutes and drug addicts.

While obviously worried about the illness, Catholic priests are in no position to support official campaigns Pope's message does not dis-pel the ambiguity but it does make it plain that the Chris-tian response should be compassionate and that the duty is to take care of Aids victims, get to the roots of the disease and not be prejudiced.

The Pope sent out Christmas greetings in 50 languages, including all the main tongues of the Soviet bloc. In English, he said, "May the light that came into the world on this blessed day rchers to increase their shine in your hearts and in



The Pope, holding his pasteral staff, stands on the central balcony of St Peter's Basilica after delivering his Christmas Day message yesterday. Moved by the recent spate of world disasters, he combined the theme of the joy at the birth of

flock to Midnight Mass

From Catherine Sampson, Peking

improves worker productivity.

lion Christians in China,

morning after protesters ig-

according to official figures

Patriotic Catholic Association

of non-members who crowded

the churches on Saturday, China may have to decide

But, judging by the numbers

and its Protestant equivalent.

which paralysed traffic.

There are about eight mil-

who wanted to witness Christian rites, mainly university students, flocked to Midnight Masses in Peking's churches on Christmas Eve, despite warnings that non-believers would not be admitted.

In this officially atheist country, the crowds were clearly not risking their fu-tures actually to attend, but they felt safe enough to experi-ment with this foreign and fascinating tradition.

At Nantang church, where Bishop Fu Tieshan celebrated Midnight Mass in Latin, bordes of students were gathered outside the gates at 10.30 pm, complaining that they had not been allowed in.

We have freedom now, that is why we have come for the is why we have come for the first time," one said. Others said that although they were not believers, they were genu-inely interested in Catholicism

One young man said his family had been Catholic for the government-approved ver-sion - the Patriotic Catholic

Churches in China are fac-

Thousands of the simply curiing a resurgence of interest in growing interest in things one and some non-Catholics the Christian faith and have religious outside the membership of these organizations. slowly begun to open again Officials at the gate of after the total closure imposed in the Cultural Revolution. Officials also have relaxed

Nantang church used fairly arbitrary methods to screen their denuciation of anyone who professes Christianity, and during the past year it has out excess worshippers, some of where gained admission by citing their baptismal Chrisbeen argued in at least one newspaper article that religion should be tolerated because it

Earlier in the evening, the Reverend Yin Jizeng took the Christmus Eve carol service at the Protestant Chongwennen church About 2,500 people at-tended, about a thousand more than go to Sunday worship. Apparently no one was turned

Sava (Reuter) — About 50 people were arrested yesterday in Suva when police and soldiers tore down blockades set up by Methodist hardliners commissions for strict Sunday The dark, wood-panelled ceiling was decorated with tinsel, and the traditional Chicampaigning for strict Sunday observance in the capital. Wimesses said most arrests nese skill of paper cutting had provided decorations for the walls. A Christmas tree sported fairy lights and occurred early yesterday nored warnings that authori-Emmanuel" was written in ties would not tolerate a repeat of last Sunday's blockades large Chinese characters across the front of the church.

"I think Christianity is right on some things," said one woman, aged 21, who works for a building company. based on membership of the "Everything is changing so fast now, at work everything is high-pressure, things are very complicated. Individuals don't know how they should act, so they are interested in anything which gives them guidance."

what to do about a rapidly Glimmer of light penetrates gloom over Bethlehem

From Richard Owen, Jerusalem

It was a Christmas when the festive cavalcade from Jeruonly street decorations were salem to Bethlehem, told the put up by Israeli Jews, not by

over because of israeli actions according to hospital officials.

against the intifada in the occupied territories this year. It was a Christmas when the driving rain and thick mist which enveloped Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem seemed

symbolic of the dismal mood. sides began to see dim signs of the PLO and the US. latter half of an otherwise troubled year has seen the beginnings of seismic shifts in the Middle East: the decision by the Palestine Liberation Organization to renounce terrorism and seek respectability; America's decision to talk to the PLO as a result; the new Israeli Cabinet's apparent

realization that an Israeli initiative is needed. "We need a faith for troubled times," Bishop Samir Kafity, the Anglican Bishop of Jerusalem said - who is a Palestinian - as carol singers huddled under dripping umbrellas in Bethlehem under the gaze of hundreds of armed Israeli troops in waterproof fatigues. "Yet the light of Christmas shines more brightly in the darkness, in these times of occupation and

he said. Inside the Nativity Church on Christmas Eve, those pilgrims who had braved the downpour, the security checks and body searches filed through the underground cave where Jesus is thought to have been born, and where a figure of the Christ Child was placed after the traditional midnight mass by Archbishop Sabbah.

The Patriarch, who dis-

pensed this year with the usual

Fajr, that there was "no Arab Christians.

It was a Christmas when Arab leaders – from Mr Elias Freij, the Mayor of Bethehem, to Archbishop Michel Sabbah, the Roman Catholic Patriarch – found little to celebrate and much to grieve in West Bank towns, and, according to heavilla officials.

a Palestinian teenager was shot dead yesterday in the Gaza Strip during distur-bances, with several other

youths wounded. Islamic fundamentalists from the Islamic Hamas group distributed leaflets calling for Yet it was also a Christmas further Arab strikes in oppowhen some leaders on both sition to the dialogue between

close, most Palestinians seem heartened by the PLO-US dialogue, seeing in it their best hope of a settlement, complete with some form of Palestinian Arab state alongside the existing Jewish state.

For Mayor Freij yesterday the hardships of 1988 can only lead to better times in 1989. "We expect next year to be a year of peace negotiations," he said, adding that one way to achieve this would be a United Nations-sponsored truce between Israelis and Palestinians under which Arab detainees would be released and Israel would withdraw forces from the occupied

In the face of opposition from younger, more radical leaders, Mr Freij has maintained contacts with the Israeli military authorities, and refers pointedly to "our israeli neighbours" rather than using more abusive terms.

For the Israelis, the uprising remains a collective act of terrorism encouraged by the PLO. "What happens next will depend on how the peace process develops," one observer said yesterday as police began to dismantle the metal detectors which ringed Manger Square over Christmas.

Khartoum (AFP) - One mil-lion public sector employees

are to get a pay rise which will increase their minimum wage

Governor hurt

Pierre, South Dakota (AP) -

Governor George Mickelson.

aged 47, is in hospital in a

serious condition after falling

off a snowmobile into a

Death crash

was a baby crocodile.

by 500 per cent.

when an express train hit a crowded bus on an unmanned crossing in Shenyang city in north-east China at the weekend, state radio said.

The train was travelling at normal speed from Dandong on the Korean border to Peking just before midnight on Friday. The radio report said that 17 per cent of the 12,000 train accidents in the first 10 months of this year in China involving death or injury were at unmanned crossings.

Murder record Wages boost New York (AP) - At least seven Christmas Eve murders ushed New York City's 1988 homicide total to a record

1,842, with a week left in the year still to go, officials said. **Bus hostages** Delhi (AFP) - Suspected Sikh

militants, armed with automatic rifles, took six Hindus hostage after holding up a bus in northern Punjab state.

Dali home

Figuerus (Reuter) - The Span-ish painter, Salvador Dali, went home from hospital after further treatment for internal

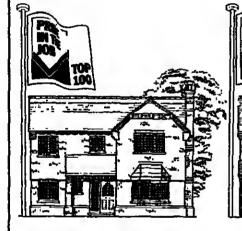
bleeding.

Brussels (Reuter) - Five people were killed and one critically injured when a sto-Waste threat

len car carrying crashed near Mons.

Snap check Lagos (Rester) - Nigeria will Colombo (AFP) - Sri Lankan jail for life anyone found troops stopped and searched s . guilty of dumping toxic waste man they feared was carrying a weapon hidden in his trouser pocket — but found the bulge or encouraging others to do so, the News Agency of Nigeria

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Broughton Asdey

Christmas-time captivity in foreign jails

LEBANON

From Juan Carlos Gumacio, west Beirat

It was supposed to be "the US was counting oo its newly Christmas of the hostages", re-established dialogue with some kind of reconciliation the Syrians to get Mr Terry between Lebanon and the rest Anderson and eight compatri-of the world through the ots home for Christmas via release of foreigners languish- Damascus. Despite Syria's ing in the darkest cellars of campaign against the Shia Beirut Instead, what came out Muslim extremists of the were cruel reminders that hope is barely a mirage in Lebanon.

For months it seemed cer- Committee to Free Terry tain that the suffering of the Anderson has called on his hostages was nearing an end. captors to release him and his The ceasefire io the Gulf war last July and Iran's subsequent published in local newspapers. improvement of relations with the West - illustrated by journalist spent his fourth the release of three French and Christmas somewhere in the two West German hostages had strengthened the possibil-ity of a gradual release of 21 other foreigners before the end

London's rapprochement with Tehran had led many to believe that Mr Terry Waite, but it is unthinkable that Mr Mr John McCarthy and Mr George Bush, when he takes Brian Keenan would probably over the presidency, will en

first to regain turned out, it was only an illusion nourished by polihypotheses and wishful predictions ignored the entanglements of the region and Lebanon's incomp-

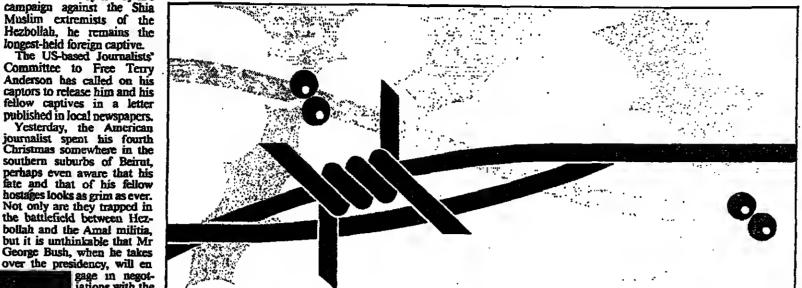
have been the

fellow captives in a letter Yesterday, the American southern suburbs of Beirut, perhaps even aware that his fate and that of his fellow hostages looks as grim as ever. Not only are they trapped in the battlefield between Hezbollah and the Amal militia,

longest-held foreign captive.

gage in negot-iations with the that could reopen wounds of the Iran-Contra affair. What coolinues to olay against Mr wo other Brit-Mrs Thatcher's opposition to estore diplom-

More than 1,600 Britons passed Christmas Day in foreign jails, about half of them for drug-related offences. The National Council for the Welfare of Prisoners Abroad is working with the Red Cross to provide food parcels for as many as possible; but for others in captivity around the world at Christmas can renew only a sense of isolation An eene silence has descended moderate forces to this winter on Tehran's Evin ties with the West. rather than a faith. Correspondents of The Times report on some of those spending prison, where two British Christmas in political detention.



valuable intermediary in the release of Americans, Frenchmen. West Germans, a South Korean and, more recently, an Indian teacher.

Failure to recognize Syria's President Assad as a key player in the region will certainly discourage any good will gesture from Damascus.

Iranian promises to help atic relations win the release of the hostages arable ability to sink ioto new cus, which has almost impossible to meet. depths of its Mr Terry Waite, pictured inalready heen Tehran wants Western presown crisis. The 1985, is still held hostage, credited as a sure on the Christian right-

wing Lebanese forces militia to admit it murdered three kidnapped Iranians in 1982. If there were any hopes that

the captors could show some compassion or willingness to "reward" the West for its support to the Palestinians, they too have collapsed in the recent chain of events that seem to herald a new wave of strong anti-Western sentiments in Lebanon.

Perhaps the most ominous sign came five days before Christmas, when the International Committee of the PLO chairman. Red Cross took the unprecedented step of suspending operations in an area of

Lebanon after death threats. Diplomats of other European countries, which have endorsed Mr Arafat's diplomatic strategy, are taking extraordinary precautioos against what one of them described as a possible cam-

For the few foreigners left in west Beirut, the murder of Mr Arthur van Nieuwerburg, a British-born Belgian teacher conflict and evacuated its 17 remaining Swiss staff from shot dead in broad daylight as he walked oear his home two weeks ago, came as a shocking shopping excursions, no more town. Despite the heavy presence of Syrian troops, it is clear that assassins and kidpaign of reprisals by Palestin-nappers can easily strike and

By Nicholas Beeston

An eerie silence has descended moderate forces to re-establish prisoners, Mr Roger Cooper and Mr Nicholas Nichola,

The relative quiet of the sprawling security prison is accounted for by four mooths of mass executions of Iranian

political prisoners. The silence has served to remind the British inmates that those moderates who hold the key to their freedom

are no closer to gaining power. lo central Tehran, two British diplomats, Mr Gordon Pirie and Mr Victor Welborn, are reopening the Embassy for business, but their priority last week was to gain consular access to the Sritons and to try to provide them with a turkey

In spite of a protest earlier this mooth by three generations of Coopers - his mother. brother and daughter - out-side the Iranian Embassy in

fore Christmas. negotiatioos seem set to last well into the New Year. The problem tre on Mr Ali

Loodon seeking

his release be-

Akbar Mohtathe shemi. hardline Interior Minister, who is opposed Mr Cooper "confessing" on them for pol-

"coofessing" to spying.

Mr Nichola, aged 28, preconfusing picture. He was arrested on September Pakistani border by Iranian police who claim he was shooting at pas-

> never been charged brought to trial, their captors wanting to use

British diplomats are always treated cordially by the Iranian Ministry of Foreign

spent another bleak Affairs, but the lobbying appears to have brought the two no closer to freedom. Mr Cooper, aged 53, who had been based in Iran as a

freelance journalist and businessman until the revolutioo in 1979, arrived in Tehran in the summer of 1985. Revolutionary Guards arrested him that December 7 oo the pretext that he had

deliberately overstayed the time he had been granted to stay in Iran. He has never beeo formally charged, and his case. which appeared at first to be a straightforward misuoderstanding, moved within months into the realms of international politics. Iraoian television has showed him

sing vehicles. He, too, has

moves by Iran television in February. itical ransom.

CHILDREN

By David Rowan

Unlike most eight-year-old boys Amonissa Issa did not spend Christmas at home with his family - unless the Central Prison in Addis Ababa, Ethio-pia, can be called "home".

His mother, Mrs Namat Issa, was seven months pregnant when she was arrested in February, 1980; and although no official reason has been given for her arrest, her son has never known life outside prison, and he has never seen his father, Mr Mulugetta Issa,

held in a separate prison. A member of the Oromo ethnic community, Mrs Issa was a senior civil servant in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

until her detention. Five years ago, Amonissa contracted a viral infection, thought to have been cerebral meningitis, which damaged his brain, leaving him mentally handicapped. Apart from weekly visits to a hospital for therapy, his life is limited to the women's section of the

Central Prison. To those children unwittingly caught in political conflicts the festive season brings little peace, goodwill or charity. A child's vulnerability and innocence provide no protection against imprisonment, torture or death, despite inter-

national conventions. A report from Amnesty International this year highlighted the case of the several thousand South African children, some also as young as seveo, who have been arrested under the state of emergency declared io June, 1985.

The report also condemned the "disappearance" of children in Argentina, Sri Lanka and Peru, following seizure by government forces, and called for the most basic rights of

children to be honoured. Nor do the children of "disappeared" parents find the suffering easy to accept.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Levko Lukyanenko, Ukranian lawyer, has still to enjoy the fruits of glasnost. At present in internal exile, he has spent 26 years in prison for expressing opinions that are "dangerous crimes against the state"

After graduating from Mos-cow University, Mr Lukyanenko practised in the Ukranian city of Lvov from 1958 to 1960. He was first arrested in 1961 and accused of belonging to an unofficial group advocating a referendum on the secession of the Ukraine, a right set down in the Soviet

Convicted of "treason" "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" and "participating in an anti-Soviet organization", he was sentenced to death, later commuted to 15 years' imprisonment.

On his release in 1976, Mr Lukyanenko was prevented from practising law and kept under strict curfew. He joined a new unofficial group formed to monitor how far the Soviet Government respected the 1975 Helsinki Accord on human rights, which led to a further conviction in December 1977 for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda".

His 15-year sentence included 10 years in the corrective labour colony, Camp VS 389/36-1, where "especially dangerous recidivists" work eight hours a day assembling electronic components. Exercise is restricted to an hour a day and only two annual visits are permitted.

According to Amnesty In-ternational, 1988 has seen a record number of releases of prisoners of conscience in the Soviet Union.

Sut the organization claims to have details of about 140 other cases, including approximately 20 psychiatric deten-tions on political grounds.

rorism and treason, concepts

which are defined rather elas-

But many others are held

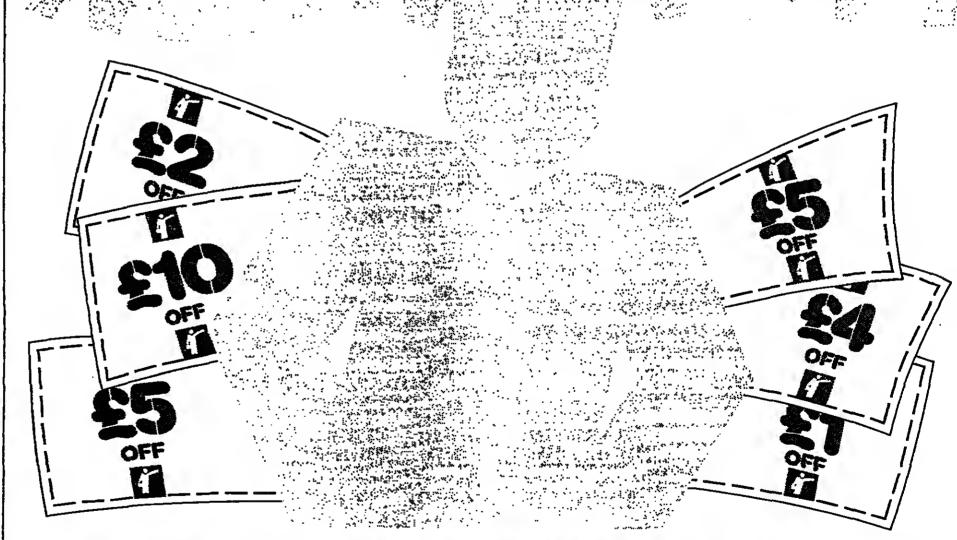
anyone considered a threat to

public safety".

In the past two and a half

TOMORROW

Anyone would think it's Christmas!)



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Call in to Homebase tomorrow, Tuesday 27th December, and you can pick up another Christmas present. As you come through the door you'll be handed £200 worth of coupons to spend throughout the store, on houseplants, curtain poles, bathroom suites, ladders . . . and many other products.

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SOUTH AFRICA

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa's most famous and recently jailed leaders of prisoner, Nelson Mandela, the ANC-supporting United aged 70, will today spend his 27th Christmas io the custody been tried and coovicted of of prison authorities; whether crimes such as sabotage, terhe will ever again enjoy complete political and physical freedom is open to conjecture. tically by South African

Earlier this month, in the courts. latest stage in what has been called "freedom by instalunder emergency and security under emergency and security ment", Mandela was moved laws which permit the indefito a house on a prison estate nite deteotion without trial of near the wine-growing town of Paarl in the Western Cape, and told that he could receive visits from members of his years, about 30.000 people are on "a continuous

So far Mrs Winnie Mandela, whose visits to her husband hitherto have been rationed strictly, has declined to she regards her

husband to be just as much a prisoner as he only the best known of a large number of prisoners held in South Africa for their active opposition to apartheid and its denial, based 🖠 oo race, of political and other

estimated to have spent time in jail under these laws. Conditions for political prisoners in South Africa are very tough, often involving long periods of solitary take up this offer, arguing that confinement, but prison to do so would be wrong when regulations forbidding the physical abuse of prisoners are by and large honoured

The appalling, sometimes fatal, and all too frequent physdetainees, often iovolving elec-tric-shock torture and savage beatings, ally take place in the cells of the Security

Some of them. Nelson Mandela: His 27th detainee is sen

SPECTRUM

The man who jumps for joy Holik

was just like any other day - a

strict diet, and early to bed. It is

this sort of discipline which has

taken him to the top in National Hunt racing. But Sally Brompton finds the dedicated champion is happiest at

home, cooking chips for his children

eter Scudamore had come fourth in the 12.30 and third in the 2.00; now he was bustling around his Cotswold home, organizing his small sons' tea-time demands: Neighbours on the television, chocolate milk drinks and no crumbs in the chocolate milk sitting-room, Thomas.

It was an unexpected insight into the private world of the 30-year-old champion National Hunt jockey and a role with which he appears to be considerably more at ease than qualifying as an also-ran at Towcester. He shrugged off his neck injury of two days carlier. "I was fine today. The horses weren't fast enough. I thought I'd ride a winner.'

Then it was back to the boys. "What's this on tele-vision?" "Neighbours," chorused Thomas, aged six, and Michael, four. "And what's Neighbours?" "Rubbish!" Their father grinned at me engagingly. "That's my little party trick." He hates soap operas and horror films, feeling no need for that kind of popular escapism. "People want to take themselves out of reality," he says of the addicts. "I have enough excitement, my life is a soap. I don't need to watch it ou television."

Few would disagree. Four times champion jockey, he is currently steeplechasing's all-time golden boy with 100 wins this seasou in the fastest time ever - 55 days faster than the previous record, held by Jonjo O'Neill

The fact that he is considered to be one of the most dedicated of jockeys in high-risk sport merely adds to his appeal. Admired respected by both the punters and his peers, he is the expert's expert and the housewife's hero. Even at home, in the modest three-up, threedown cottage he is restoring,

The walls are covered with framed photographs of Scudamore in action, every shelf and window-ledge is crammed with his trophies. In his small office he has his own Prestel system to enable him to arrange his rides.

I'm lucky enough to have a decent education and I'm sure that's helped me. I'm not an

down and work out my horses and I can pick up the telephone and plan my rides. If you're on top of the game you know the form better if you do

The only son of Michael Scudamore, former top jockey turned trainer, he was brought up on his father's farm in Herefordshire never wanting to do anything other than ride from the day he first sat on a pony. "I began riding like my children; you don't start, you've just been brought up with horses. I was uo golden child. I rode to a standard, show-jumped, hunted and attended gymkhanas, but I would never have been outstanding at any of them. I remember at school somebody once said why on earth do you want to be a National Hunt jockey? There's uo glory in that.' He didn't understand

school, which meant that he could ride only in the holidays. During term-time he played rugby for the first team, did well at scripture and history, and eventually got his A levels in medieval history and the British constitution. Dicing al-most daily with the perils of surviving as a jump jockey, it is ironic that the only nightmares he ever has involve being given impossible questions in his A levels - "some sexual fantasy, I expect," he

When he left school, having been told by trainer Willie Stephenson that he was not tough enough to become a jockey, he got a job with an estate agent, "riding out until then rushing into work". After a year of "licking stamps, making tea, putting up For Sale signs and doing equally badly at all three", he decided to try to make a profession out of his only real ambition.

He had his first win in 1979, at the age of 21, and two years later was joint champion jockey with John Francome. For the past three years he has won the title outright.
He makes little of the

rigours of remaining at the top, the rigid "wasting", the evening meals of spinach and fruit juice, the daily saunas, intelligent person but I can sit the enforced early nights, the



Family on course: champion National Hunt jockey Peter Scudamore at home with his wife, Marilyn, and sons Thomas (6) and Michael (4)

discipline which dominated sure his weight never crept far accused him of being too because I'm lucky enough to even Christmas Day so that he above 10 stone. even Christmas Day so that he above 10 stone. could ride this afternoon at He met his Kempton. "We all eat too much anyway," he says. "I'm probably healthier for it.

He finds the travelling the hardest part. In the four-day racing week leading up to Christmas, still recovering from his heavy fall at Ascot the previous Saturday, he rode at Towester, Ludlow, Bangor and Lingfield in 10 races, winning three in one day, coming second in four. "It's easier to have five rides than one in the first race and one in the last."

> Nor does he feel that he misses out on family life. "I don't think I see my children less than other fathers, just at different times. They appreciate that I've got a living to make. Thomas loves to see me win and gets very cross if I get beaten." The whole family accompanies him to meetings whenever they can. In the summer he relaxes, plays ten-nis daily and highly competitively, reads voraciously, especially autobiographies — "I like to be learning

On holiday in the Carib-

was 22 and she was 26. "I'd had girlfriends before but I never thought I'd get married envious of him." as early as I did. Her family has always been involved in show jumping but people said you can't work together and be married." Marilyn rides out every morning and supports him totally in his precarious profession. "She says it's probon the M25. You've got to put

blown my top a long time ago. Family life is my relaxation. It totally takes my mind off racing. I suppose I'm basically selfish but Marilyn keeps on pulling me out of it. I don't come home and discuss the technical details of a horse. If I do get a problem I tend to worry within myself. When we first got married we knew it wasn't going to be easy. But if there's any hardship it's probably Marilyn and the children

that suffer - not me." He is very different from his

He met his wife, Marilyn, when he rode a point-to-pointer belonging to her "He's a man's man and I've that his success is primarily father. They married when he got great respect for him. But due to luck. "It's the horse that he has a different approach to

life from me. I try not to be

domestic security I've been very lucky." of his home, Scudamore drops the deadpan mask which has become his trademark. "Racing has given me a confidence I wouldn't have had," he admits. "I've always been an extremely bad loser. At public school you're taught His family, he feels, has not to show your emotions, given him stability. "Without them, I would probably have but I do find that it does hurt to lose and that's something

> He tries to rationalize his compulsion to race, to win, with mundane phrases such as "job satisfaction". The desire to risk life and limb several times a day is clearly more than that. "I've always been very competitive and I want to win horse-racing more than anything else. Racing is more than life and death but even so it's only a bloody horse race at the end of the day. What is winning the Grand National

wins," he says. "OK, I under-stand the horse, but I never try to assess what I do. People try good life." wet, within the to build you up but I know

Nor does he regard himself as at all courageous, despite the daunting toll of victims in the steeplechasing hall of fame. Twe always been a coward," he insists. "As a child I used to hide behind the sofa when Dr Who came on the television. I still get nervous before a race."

His mother worries about his safety and always asks him when he is going to get a proper job. Scudamore has no illusions about the dangers of racing: "It doesn't matter how good you are, every time you have a fall you're lucky if you get up again. There have been riders killed this year, riders paralysed this year, others else'." with broken arms and legs. It He all keeps your feet on the floor. stitious - "I was born on Tomorrow it could all be over, Friday the 13th" - but he has just one little mistake."

He estimates that he caryear, before tax. "I've always only because he read it some-said that I haven't ridden for where recently. "If you go on bean this year he snorkelled, swam, played beach cricket, former rival, the charismatic drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently the charismatic drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently the charismatic drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently the charismatic drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently the charismatic drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made frank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome, who has frequently drank rum punches and made francome francome

been lucky enough to have made enough money not to want money. At the same time, my biggest worry now is

worry about educating my children and giving my wife a He recently started his own bloodstock agency, a business he would eventually like to combine with training. "It's probably the only way of

making money out of racing other than being a bookmaker. I know it's not going to go on for ever. At 35 you're an old man in this sport. Every time you go home you know you've achieved something Every time you see some poor fellow killed you always think it isn't going to happen to you. You hope to God it doesn't

what to do I do in the future. I

happen to you. You've chosen your profession, and it's a great way of life, but obviously if you get hurt enough times you think blow this - I'll do something

He says he is not supernever counted his falls nor his injuries. He knows he has rently earns around £80,000 a ridden about 950 winners, but

been very competitive. I want to win races more than anything else. I give my all because I'm lucky enough to have been given the opportunity'

ing to get a bad fall. I've had broken arms, broken legs, a cracked skull, all sorts of things. Of course you worry about injuries and the pain and the loss of your living.

"You know it's going to end, but you want it to last as long as possible. I'm a pro-fessional — I've got to be hungry, I've got to conkeen riding. You set yourself a timetable - and if you stick to that, great, but you can't take things for granted."

asked about his ambitions, a question he regards as pid. "The sky's the limit and don't want to get into the position of saying 'this is my last seasou". If you knew your fall was going to be on Wednesday, you'd give up on the Tuesday, wouldn't you?"

With the future in mind, his wife has taken a secretarial job. "It comes down to the fact that, at the end of the day, mine is a very insecure job. If it all comes to an end, at least somebody's doing some good.

"Now she's a working lady I have got to do my bit. I don't do as much as I should around the house but I do try to cook and help out. All I can basically do is grill or fry or boil something, although I did try a roast the other day." He consulted his sons. "Who cooks the best eggs?" 'Daddy!" "Who cooks the best steaks? And chips?" "Daddy!" Another proud grin from Peter Scudamore. Another little party trick.

He attributes his reputation as a nice guy to the fact that be is a success in the world of his choice. "It's easy to be nice when things are going well. Supposing that I hadn't had the opportunity to do it? Supposing I'd broken my arm on my first ride? What sort of person would I have been then? I'd probably have been trying to prove something. Now I can walk into a room and I don't have to prove anything to anyone because I've proved something to myself.

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"I don't feel I miss out on anything. I feel I've lived a very full life. I've made friends all over the world, met with lords and ladies, been to Buckingham Palace, sat next to Bryan Robson, appeared on A Question of Sport. OK, it might be childish, it might be Boys' Own stuff, but I'm

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Elements of refurbishment

Such-and-such an hotel is closing down "to be refur-bished". This now seems to be a daily item in our newspapers. But what, many readers are asking, is the etymological derivation of the verb "to

Originally, of course, the verb was simply "to bish", an old English expression meaning "to mess up, to alter to the ut of raination." It then became linked with the more modern, possibly North American, verb "to refur", cracks with far, or fur-substitute, with a view to attracting the busy executive in search of luxury". Thus, to refur-bish, or refurbish, has come to mean "to ruin a perfectly good hotel, removing all sense of character, by

cost-cutting alterations". Such are the advances in refurbishment" that the definition must now be expanded walls fitted with radios. through which only Radio Two

applying a smooth veneer of

can be heard, and that only plastic boards erected in the main hall with plastic letters welcoming 200- strong microcompater conferences, but never the individual costomer;

vice, to be replaced by a thin strip of paper called "Your personal shoeshine cloth", "Your personal kettle". "Your personal instant coffee" and so on, "personal" "do

CRAIG yourself?;
• the division of BROWN

each bedroom by means of a thin piece of tissue paper into two fin bug revealed that it was bedrooms with any remaining called "Hi Taiwan", and bedrooms with any remaining called "Hi Taiwan", and space turned into a "shower added that "it first

• removal of any sight of the went 'underground' for a while manager, to be replaced by a and resurfaced 20 years later "personal letter" from the in the late Seventies. nager welcoming you to the • fixing shut all windows, to keep fresh air from ruining the

executive-style heating syso full range of Jeffrey Archer books on sale at kiesk, which sold for \$49 million last year, is regrettably closed until five es after the customer is

Strange are the effects of watching too many cartoons over the Christmas period. Taken with too much wine and plum pudding, they produce a giddying sensation that makes it hard for even the soundest man to keep a hold on reality. o removal of all personal ser- Like these cartoon forests

whose branches become creepy ten-tacles, the most bizarre items are

The anthropo-torphic influence of Disney has been rife in our national newspapers over the past week. First, an article

Later in the week a learned piece about the hole in the ozone layer stated that it had "gone for a walk". The very next day, it was revealed that the mysterious buyer of Van Gogh's "Irises", which was was Mr Alan Bond, the abiqnitous Australian busine man, and that it being, in his opinion, "the most important painting in the world", he was

floor office in Perth. "Hi Taiwan" is now firmly etched in the public imagination as a somewhat unsavoury, bean-bage-and-juss-sticks sort of bug, who bung around with Colin Maclanes in the Fifties,

and, like Gary Glitter, experi enced something of a revival in the Seventies. "Hi, Colin!" this Beat Bug would say as he swaggered into the Colony Rooms in the Fifties. "Oh, h Taiwan!" MacInnes

The hole in the ozone layer seemes scarcely less reputable. What, readers must be wondering, did this feckless hole get up to after it had gone for its walk? All the signs succest that, lacking any form of self-discipline, it thumbed a lift across continents in a vain attempt to find itself, before finally settling down in New Zealand, perhaps giving birth to a couple of tiny ozone holes.

Van Gogh's "Irises" is far more go-getting, up there on its 51st floor. Mr Bond ushers in his business clients. "I'd like you all to meet 'Irises', the most important painting in the world". "Irises" then takes over doling out the drinks, swapping opinions about the best restaurants in Perth, before clinching a multi-million dollar deal without so much as dropping a petal. The Bent Bug Hi Taiwan; the hippy drop-out Ozone Hole, and "Irises", the wheelerdealer who graces the 51st floor: we will surely be hearing

reach more of them all in 1989.

Kiss and tell, Health Page

The full address for readers who wish to take part in the St Bartholomew's study of those who have been diagnosed as suffering from glandular fever and who have taken longer than six months to make a full recovery (Health Page, December 15) is: Glandular Fever Research Project, PO Box 767, London SE26 4NR. Please enclose a self-addressed envelope.



MONDAY PAGE

Introducing the Hohki Karaoke

troduces Channel 4's newest chat show on Wednesday night, she will certainly be the first interviewer on British televisioo to encourage her guests to remove their shoes, drink sake and then sing songs to backing tapes. This is the art of Karaoke, big in Japan and a trend which the station obviously hopes is about to be

raile of

to have

big here. Karaoke literally means 'empty orcbestra", and clubs in Tokyo are apparently filled with businessmen singing Beatles songs with extreme serinusness to their peers. Quite what relevance this has to enlightened conversation on television remains to be seen. At any rate, on the strength of this week's pilot (which has performances by Paul Boateng, MP, singing "As Time Goes By" and Ruby Wax singing "New York New York"), Channel 4 has commissioned a series of seven further shows to be bosted by Miss Hohki.

One problem which manifested itself during filming concerned the difficulty her guests had in understanding what Hohki was saying. She, in turn, could not always grasp the reply to ber own questions. These would seem to be serious defects in a chat show hostess. Hohki readily agrees. Yes I think it's absurd, me doing a chat show. We spend a lot of time asking each other, What did you say? Very British idea, so absurd, so absurd.

This had been prompted by an exchange following her remark that she had been a student of Shelley in Tokyo. Shelley had seemed such an unusual choice for a Japanese undergraduate, it required further comment. "No, oo, oot of Shelley' ... officially," explaioed Hohki, giggling. She gamely believes, bowever, that the linguistic chasm may some benefit. "The

guests know I can't speak

Karaoke is the Japanese art of singing songs to backing tapes. Kazuko Hohki, hostess of an extraordinary chat show.

hopes it is about to become big in Britain. Fionnuala McHugh reports

backing tapes, sing songs, change costumes, talk a bit. In

Japan I won't be able to do

what I'm doing here. I'm too

loud-mouthed and I believe in

good for Japanese women.

"And Japanese are so closed

to comedy, they never had to

use humour as protection against foreign invasion. You

have loads of foreigners so

have to have humour against

English sense of burnour, of

course, is the notion propa-

A recent development in the

cultural invasion."

English so well or understand it and they feel more secure. I can't bite back like English presenter, so probably more relaxing atmosphere." A sort of Hohki Karaoke?

She has been an Anglophile since childhood exposure to The Borrowers books in postwar Japan alerted ber to the peculiarities of English creativity. "Since I was 10 I wanted to come to Britain. I came as tourist and I still think I'm tourist, I'm so happy. I think I'm addicted."
After studying child psychology ("I wanted to study British culture but teacher said there wasn't any") she arrived in England in 1978 at the age of 26 to catch a David Bowie tour and has remained here more or less ever since.

Teaching Japanese at an adult education class provided both ao income and further exposure to the eccentric English. "One man brought me a Japanese pornographic cup, very porno-graphic from Bournemouth, I think. He say he wanted to take photo of me. I think he was obsessed with oriental women and wanted to take photo bopefully with few clothes on."

She also did some journalism for a Japanese magazine, in the course of which she encountered various performance artists. This encouraged her to set up the Frank Chickens, a cabaret duo, who derived their name from some English words inscribed on a Japanese pencil and whose act is a similarly unlikely mixture of East and

Hohki describes ber stage performance as economically packaged rook (rook? "Rock, r-o-c-k") culture. "We use tion, presumably as part of the foreign invasion of Hohki's theory of comedy.

able moments in the Channel 4 show when some Japanese businessmen perform songs, thereby reducing the invited audience to writhing hysterics. Hohki, bowever, is con-fident that her chat show will

catch nn. Ironically enough, she thinks that Karaoke is so successful in Japan precisely because they don't have chat shows. "In cooversations they what I'm saying. That's not tend to end up agreeing with each other all the time, it is they are not supposed to have their own ideas. such conformist society. Singing is much better."

> whether the same holds true bere. She can always seek consolation, if the cult status everyone is hnping for eludes her, in the attitude she has so often observed in ber adopted country: "English people, I think, are more into failure."

It remains to be seen

Kazuko's Karaoke Klub will be, shown on Channel 4 on Wednesday at 11.10pm gated by Clive James that the Japanese are an hilarious na-



Kazuko Hohki: "In Japan I won't be able to do what I'm doing here. I'm too loud-mouthed and I believe in what I'm saying"

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ge matters

symposium oo population change held recently at the European Institute in Florence, leading demographers, sociologists, economists and historians decided that this was no time to be thinking of early retirement.

It seems that Europe has to meet the challenge of declining fertility and an ageing population and thinks that the way to do this is to keep people at their desks when, until now, we have insisted that they eke out their peaceful days picking the greenfly off

I do not know how those among us who are entering the autumn of their days are going to take this news. After all, the oow defunct early retirement policy provided a jolly time for little old dyed blonde grannies with adequate pension schemes and a taste for playing a word association adventure. Everywhere one went, and quite a few places that one didn't, nne heard tell of troupes of golden oldies on Saga Holidays whooping it up. Cheap travel bas probably benefited the elderly more than any other group, as they have the time as well as the disposable income to globetrot. Companies such as Saga shepherd their clients to such awesome spots that the oext time someone attempts the north face of the Eiger, he will probably find a hotel being huilt there especially for the itchy-footed elderly.

Why should a group of professors in Florence think that anyone would rush to give up the joy of charter flights to dn another 20 years straphanging in the rush hour to get tn their boring jobs on time? It was probably all the

gadding about and declaratinns that you are only as old as you feel from all those flighty pensioners that drew them to the attention of those who decide what's what. In Florence, the young-at-hearts' goose was cooked wheo a demographer present iosisted: "We must change the rules governing our society and use biological age rather than chronological age as a criterinn when we decide who is 'old' and who is not."

This will be welcome news Pernek family. As I write, my parents, who will not be 70 again, are on holiday in Antibes and are planning a weekend in Paris before my father goes back to work. A few years ago, they bought a retirement home in Brighton, a pretty mews cottage with roses round the door. But as it became clear that hell would



retired, they sold it and moved back to mod-cons in London. My grandmother was of the same youthful persuasion. When she finally stopped colouring ber hair bright orange at the age of 84, she complained that her new white-haired dignity made her look old. At 80, she had been very indignant when, having passed all the tests to become a voluntary social worker, she was turned down on grounds of age. All my relations would sympathize with the fashion designer Calvin Klein wbo, game and given the word

"young", answered "forever". I am not like that at all. In fact, I have been planning my retirement since I was in my early twenties. The house in the west of Ireland is ready and waiting. There is a pile of turf by the fire and a drawer full of tapestry kits to keep me nicely occupied. Having had too much travel and excitement in my life already, I wish to spend my old age staying peacefully put.

nstead of looking at the tour operator's brochures, you will find me poring over those catalogues which feature non-slip rubber mats to put in the bath and gadgets to help you put your socks on. The last thing I want is some demographer deciding that I have a biological age of 171/2 and forcing me to stay in London and do my bit.

There are grave dangers io keeping the elderly in posit-ions of responsibility since great age so often brings with it even greater pig-headedness. Judges who let rapists and child abusers get off scot-free are usually getting on a bit, as are magistrates who sentence first-time offenders to a stiff iail sentence. Minds as well as muscles become inflexible as the years pass.

It is interesting that the to the older generation of the symposium on populatioo change was held at the European University Institute in Florence. The Institute is just outside the city on a hill-top in Fiesole, one of the most beautiful places in the world. I wouldn't be at all surprised if between working sessions, the delegates mooched around looking for the perfect villa in which to spend their retirement.



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Bernard Levin

Deliver us from this season of despair

have never been of the school which insists that the world is going to hell in a volved. In order to avoid the handbasket, partly because I am oot at all sure what a handbasket is, but much more because it has always seemed to me that the optimistic stance is the only one worthy of any civilized and intelligent person. But when we actually look at the world and Sits present condition we can hardly deny that there is much plausibility in the claim that we Fare on an irreversible slide to itsimpation, and most of us are going there pig-ignorant and in a

the before the pessimists rally, let the do some of their work for them. As this year ends, I own to a feeling of much more than unease at the daily corruption of power that I see in our country. A government with no opposition that it needs to take seriously will inevitably grow arrogant, and arrogance is but a step from the conviction of certainty, and the conviction of certainty is inevitably followed by the belief that enemies are hatching conspiracies everywhere, and such paranoia must lead to self-pity, whereupon self-pity turns into arrogance and the circle is complete. You want examples? You shall have them.

How few years ago is it that the constitutional outrage embodied in his bousing association trick would have had Mr Nicholas Ridley out oo his ear, propelled by most of his party, before the end of the afternoon of the day be introduced it? New rules mean that council housing may be taken over by housing associations, but gloomier. Britain's reputation for

embarrassment of such proposals being defeated, thus implying that the tenants think that it is a lousy the tenants think that it is a lousy idea (which would amount to disbelieving the Government's claims), Ridley has rigged the ballot. If the Noes have it, all those who didn't take part in the vote, though entitled to, are counted as having voted Aye. Neat, what? And done, of course, within the law. Yet not long ago, certainly oot much more than a decade, the man who organized such a scam would have been characterized as would have been characterized as a crook as surely as if he had made off with the Crown Jewels.
And the new Official Secrets

Act? (O God, runs any sensible man's prayer, protect us from a Home Secretary who nurses am-bitions). It, too, would until very recently have been torn up and thrown in Hurd's face by his own side, and for the right reason too that apart from some adjustments to the cootracts of members of the security services, its purpose is to ensure that those in political authority can lie to us with impunity whenever they feel like it, and at all times conceal from us things that we need to know and things that we need to know and have a right to know. But this attitude has not come into being spontaneously; it has a cause, and the cause is worse - much worse than the effects, for it is that those in authority do not trust us. What kind of a democracy is it that must call oo the guns of dishonesty to disarm the people?

Gloomy thoughts these. And a

willingness to take in refugees from countries which persecuted them once stood as high as any in the world; at times higher than any. But it is, or should be, a matter for shame that our record on refugees is now among the world's worst. The infamous measure that gave to airlines - airlines! - the duty and the right to turn back refugees; the rule that before refugees can be certified genuine they have to produce papers obtainable only from the authority which is persecuting them; the offshore hulks to which would-be refugees were sent, like victims of the stave trade, while their applications, carefully delayed by those charged with processing them, were dealt with, pour encourager les autres, these are stains that cannot easily be

wiped away, but go on seeping into the fabric and rotting it.

It is not surprising that many people, disturbed by such trends, and rightly despairing of Labour on the left and alphabet soup in the centre, have stepped back from the immediate political struggle to argue in a somewhat more detached manner and to exchange views in a less heated environment. And just as I was pricking up my ears at such potentially interesting and fruitful news, I discovered that the organization set up for the purpose described, and the magazine launched with a separate but complementary aim, were called respectively Charter 88 and

If people can do things like that, there is oo point at all in asking them whether they are ashamed of



themselves; by the very doing, they automatically convict them-selves of being incapable of under-standing what they have done.

the rest of us from telling them. Samizdat will be filled not by bunted heroes but by some of the richest, greediest and most selfsatisfied writers in this country, whose slightest utterings (which are slight indeed) are constantly vied for by editors of oewspapers and magazines. And for their comfortable squealings these people have stolen a name which has led those who use it to imprisonment, torture and death. Brave lads! Brave lads!

I have met men who have published real samizdat at, lit-

erally, the risk of their lives. One of them told me, quietly and calmly, what the "wet sheet" torture consists of, and he was in a ood position to know, because it had happened to him. The victim is stripped naked, and wrapped in a soaking canvas shroud; as the fabric dries, it crushes him tighter and tighter, till not just movement, but breathing itself, approaches the impossible. Others escaped such suffering; they were "only" sacked from their jobs, exiled from their homes, robbed

and abused. As for Charter 88, which is a sort of pun on the Czechoslovak underground organization Charter 77, the name is simply an indecency, and the fact that the organizers have conned two members of the real organization into

giving it their blessing makes it a greater indecency, oot a lesser. The Czechoslovaks, in one respect, suffered more than any of the other states of the Soviet empire, even the Hungarians after 1956 were oot obliged to do anything except shut up and obey orders, but the Czechoslovaks after the spring of 1968 were compelled to denounce and villify that brave, glorious tragic adventure in heroism and truth, and thousands who refused were hounded incessantly for years, many of them loto their graves,

Yet Charter 77 gave notice to the darkness that they owned the dawn, and that however long they had to wait they would one day switch it on. Now contemplate

while others survived only as

terribly, terribly smart to call themselves Charter 88; do they oot know that the men and women who founded and worked for the real thing suffered for their faith, and that their suffering was a great deal worse than getting a bad review in the TLS or not being invited to Nigel Lawson's Christ-

mas drinks?
These two odiously-named enterprises serve remarkably well to put ioto perspective the genuine doubts and apprehensions that trouble so many people io Britain today. But the fact that terrible things happen elsewhere is no excuse for the fact that bad things happen here, and we had bener not try to hide our shame behind the real evil of others. Corruptio

Magic of Christmas-on-Tyne

1930s Jarrow encapsulates all the horrors of mass unemployment. The playwright Alan Plater, who was born there. has fonder

memories

our childhood Christmas Days, which I offer as a proposition to be examined in festive spirit, rather than a dogma oo which to build a life. Consider: the first of my very few appearances oo stage was in a Christmas production at my primary school in Hull. I played the Christmas Pudding and my lines

Ho ho, I'm such a merry chap! Without me, Christmas would fall flat!
So here I am and here's my chance

To have a jolly little dance! Whereupoo choreography set in and I had to skip around the stage, handkerchief, being very careful not to bump into a little girl called Margaret, who was playing the Christmas Tree. Margaret's problem was her costume, a treeshaped frock made by her mother from green taffeta and lavishly hung with pretty glass baubles, irreplaceable in wartime. She was under orders to whisper her dialogue and avoid impact from

passing puddings. It's long ago, but speaking dumb verses while dressed as a Christmas pudding does no favours for a seven-year-old kid's self-esteem. It may well have been the moment when a still, small voice in a murky recess of the soul started muttering: I'll write my own dumb plays and be revenged on the pack

The explanation must be something of the sort because, puddings aside, I had a happy and secure childhood: not a whisper of trauma, guilt, poverty or emohas been a ready supply of perplexity; starting, as is often the case, at birth.

I was born in Jarrow-on-Tyne in when my Dad changed his job. My cute versioo of the story runs: we stayed in Jarrow until the desion was over then moved to Hull to be in good time for the blitz. Though we lived in Hull we spent every holiday in Jarrow with my maternal grandparents. This became a major perplexity. People spending Christmas? I would reply: Jarrow. I never understood why they laughed. Didn't they know Jarrow as the most wonderful, magical town on the face of the good earth?

Even during the blackout, I oever remember it being dark. There were gas lights in the street and we waited each night for the arrival of the lamplighter. There seemed to be more corner shops than corners: the pie-and-pea shop, the pork butchers with a Matterhorn of pease pudding in the window, Miss Pattison's dairy, where they made the world's

greatest ice-cream in the back room, and the shop at the corner of York Street where my sister and I took the accumulator to be topped up. The accumulator was a key component in the wireless set, vital for the King's speech, Itma, the news or Victor Sylvester.

York Street was where my maternal grandparents, Thomas and Mary Plunkett, bved and where we spent every Christmas. Grandma must, I guess, have left school around the age of twelve but was vigorously self-educated. She loved books and pictures. The gallery. The Order of Release bung in the living room and The Boyhood of Raleigh in the air raid shelter.

We always called my grand-father "Granda" - the Geordie custom, spoken to rhyme with "panda" but with a decent Tyneside cadence. He was from an Irish family and a steelworker by trade. His certificate of unioo membership, sturdily framed, bung among Grandma's pictures, just above the wireless set. There was no bathroom at No 17 and one of my Christmas treats was to patch Grandma was him and shaw watch Granda washing and shaving in the scullery, stripped to the waist. I'd say to him: "Show me your medals, Granda", and be would show me the white patches on his body where he had been splashed by bot metal in pursuit of his trade. The steelworks had closed during the depression. He ended his working life as gate-keeper at the Jarrow Tube Works. On their wedding day in 1896, Grandma gave him a signet ring which I now wear, though the initials have worn smooth. I also inherited the shaving mug, which I wrote into A Very British Coup. I wouldn't trade them for ten thousand acres of grouse moor. It is no coincidence that the couple celebrating their golden wedding in Close the Coalhouse Door are called Thomas and Mary.

he miracle of Christmas in York Street during the war years is that I cannot recall any evidence of rationing or shortages. Our Christmas toys were as grand as anything that glitters in Hamleys of Harrods: but common sense tells me The Year of the Xylopbooe must have pre-dated the more severe austerity of wartime. The Year of the Xylophone is famous as one of the three occasions when I was naughty in an otherwise fragrant



Alan Plater as a child with

sister Marie: co-stars of The

Great Xylophone Episode

neck speed and, broadly speaking, if you could whistle it, he could whistle it, he could whistle it. He also played the violin and a one-string fiddle he bad made from an old cigar box.

The fiddle now stands on a shelf in my study nestling between a 1972 Writers' Guild Award and a 1982

The musical sessions usually

took place in the afternoon, after

Christmas dinner and before our

tea. Indeed, the whole day had a

structure as precise and elegant as

a quadrille or a twelve-bar hlucs.

The children, meaning the two of

us, woke in the dank, dark early

hours to see what was in our stockings. After breakfast we

opened our major presents: the xylophones, battleships, paint-boxes and books. The shortage of

paper meant that books were

drawn from a limited range. The Marvels and Mysteries of Science,

Great Navigators and Now We Are

Six. I didn't want to hurt anyone's

feelings at the time but I thought

that Christopher Robin was an

ingratiating little worm who

would have accepted the part of a

Christmas pudding with a cloying

smile and a neatly-written letter of

thanks. Now is the time to go

The order of meals, as oo any

other day, was breakfast, dinner,

tea and supper. The word "lunch"

had no place in our vocabulary or

culture. Mid-morning, the men

would be sent for a walk so the

women could set the table and get

the dinner ready. Seeo from 1988

this looks like definitive Andy

Capp chauvinism, but oobody had told us that in the early 1940s. It

public about this.

Sony Radio Award.

given several: a drum-kit, a mouth organ and a little tin saxophone. My sister Marie, a little older and even then well on the way to becoming a fine piano player, was given a solitary xylophone. I knew oothing about property

concepts but sure as hell I knew that xylophone was the most desirable object in the history of the human race. We were in the front room — which proves it was Christmas — and I hid behind the settee with the precious instrument. My sister protested.
Voices cried out "Alan — give
Marie the xylophonel" I did,
fortunately with more venom than
accuracy, so it missed the target. Mum took me out of the room and clarified a few home truths. It was one of the three occasions in her life that she was cross with me. There's a startling symmetry in these matters.

Within minutes, order was re-stored and the family band assem-bled. With the obsessive zeal of an unreformed jazz freak, I have tried to reconstruct its line-up. Mum was one of three sisters, a poten-tially decent idea for a play, except none of them ever gazed into the middle distance, dreaming of Moscow. The eldest was my Auntie May, who never married and lived with my grandparents. On my fanciful sleeve notes, she is backing on place The woment busking on piano. The youngest sister, Auntie Lil, is playing mouth organ and her husband, Uncle Harry, shipyard fitter and Home Guard corporal, is blowing a mean

Marie, naturally, is playing xylophone while Granda con-ducts. Dad, who used to sing in concert parties and Gilbert and Sullivan, doubles on drums and vocals. Grandma is flitting from front room to scullery and back, worrying about the next meal. Mum is sitting quietly in a corner and I'm sulking behind the settee. The highly catholic repertoire embraces Eugene Stratton, Peter Dawson and The Two Leslies,

The Jarrow Home Guard didn't run to a band and Uncle Harry's tin whistle served as a de facto military band. He could play the march of the Durham Light Infantry at the designated break-

with "The Blaydon Races" as a big

dinner.
On a nice day, we would go down to the river. Uotil the depression, Jarrow was a great ship-building town. At that point the Palmers yard was sold with a clause in the contract legally forbidding any future use for shipbuilding. In the 1930s the yard was used, spasmodically, for ship-breaking. Men were hired to break up ships they had built a couple of decades earlier. It isn't a pretty way to treat a community, as anyone in Sunderland will tell

you, but that's how it was. My Dad had served his time as a shipyard blacksmith in South Shields. After an obligatory spell of unemployment and relief work he found a job on the railways with the old LNER, who also owned some of the Hull docks. I oow wear his retirement watch which bears the legend. Presented to H R PLATER by the British Transport Docks Board in recog-mition of over 35 years' service."

Looking at the ships on the Tyne on Christmas Day with a steelworker, a fitter and a blacksmith was always a rich experience. They would analyse a vessel the way the critics analyse a first night, but with more love and less bullshit. They could, it's true, be a little sniffy about ships not built on the Tyne, and quite belligerent about foreigners tampering with the trade. The American Liberty ships were favoured objects of scorn and derision. After all, who in his right mind would place his faith in an American welder?

If it was too cold and wet to go to the river, we would go visiting. Front doors were open all day. closed at night and only locked if people were away. Uncle George lived in optown

Jarrow, and was not a relation. He was a workmate of Uncle Harry, an amateur eotertainer and an animal fancier. He and his wife had a dog a cat, a tortoise, chickens oo the allotment and a toad called Reuben, who lived in the yard. George would stand with his back to the fire, casually juggling with tennis balls or Indian clubs while discussing General Montgomery or Vera Lynn.

He also taught me the art of stumbling over an invisible obstacle oo the floor. I have passed the tradition oo to my kids. It's

sad to see these ancient crafts die out and if we have to sacrifice ship-building, we must settle for

After tea on Christmas Day, life

what remains.

became fine and mellow. I was wrapped around in a drowsy contentment. The evening began with cake, wine and the traditional toasts. It was not a drinking household. There was a bottle of sherry in the sideboard and some medicinal brandy. The cellar was the air raid shelter where Grandma stored her home-made wine. She experimented with ber raw materials, including beetroot and burnips, a brown-flowered plant that grew oo the banks of the Hebburn Lakes, a nearby reservoir much favoured, I discovered in later life, by local suicides. But ber greatest achievement was the non-alcoholic ginger wine. It scorched through the system like an oxy-acetylene burner.

Then we played Newmarket, a card game of almost primitive simplicity, and the only one I've ever mastered. The maximum stake was a halfpenny and I never lost. I would invest my last coin on a final desperate gamble, lose it. then look down to see that my pot had mysteriously acquired new funds. This system fell apart as I

he seam running through all the activities of the day - the meals, the walks, the music and the - was "the good bit crack". The family never stopped talking.
Apart from the King's speech, the
wireless remained silent, and oobody had inveoted James Bond movies or Blind Date. Whether that made it an Age of Innocence or an Age of Wisdom is a fair debating point. No matter. The stories tumbled out and I remember them still.

My Dad told the tale of a greyhound at the Horsley Hill Stadium at South Shields. The dog fell at the first hurdle, and got up in time to see the hare approaching it, having completed a circle of the track. The dog never raced again. It would come out of the trap, sit down and wait for the hare. It had worked out the system. Its name was Honesty.

Grandma's story of being in a second-hand shop and hearing an irate woman costomer complaining: "Hey, missus, I was in here last week and paid five shillings for a piano, and when we got it bome, two of the notes wouldn't play." Uncle Harry's account of giving

up smoking: "So I hoyed my pipe into the water, and I put a chalkmark on the side of the ship so's I'd know where to look if I wanted to start again. And now the ship's left the river!"

He had a lovely way with words, my Uncle Harry. Our family party was interrupted on one occasioo by the arrival of an unofficial Aunt and Uocle and their obsequious, worm-like son. He announced them quietly, like an old family retainer: "Mr and Mrs Robinson, accompanied by their little bug-

Then, as my eyelids drooped with the strain of trying to look awake, the conversation drifted and it was time to praise famous men and women, providing they were of Geordie blood: above all,

the footballers. The more local the hero, the more fervent the loyalty. Jacky Crawford (1896-1975) was a Jarrow lad who played for Jarrow Town, Hull, Chelsea and England. In 1984 I wrote a stage play called A Foot On The Earth, about the life and times of a Geordie barber. It was inspired by memories of my first haircut in Jarrow. I called my barber hero Jacky Crawford

The heroic traditioo continues. When Steve Cram, another Jarrow lad, started winning his profusion of gold medals, I asked my Auntic Lil, still adorable and mischievous in her eighties, whether she knew him. I should have guessed her answer, which was: "No, but I know his auntie."

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It was a privileged childhood in every sense that matters a damn. I learned to respect books, pictures, music and craftsmanship. When I first read Evelyn Waugh, to grab an author at random - a hundred others would support the point equally well - I admired the wit and the skill of his writing, but was baffled by the characters. My mind asked: what are these people for, what do they make - and if they doo't make anything, what use are they?

I love the word "playwright" because it defines the act of making, rather than writing, and carries echoes of honourable trades like shipwright and wheelwright. By comparison, people who don't make anything, except money, are the latest in the long line of perplexities stretching back to Christmas puddings and be-

Above all is a sense of wonder at the way the grown-ups protected our innocence in those fearful and ghastly times. They walked out of the Thirties into a world war which, ironically, created full employment for the first time in over a decade - and if they were afraid, it never showed. Even at the height of the blitz I was oever

My opening proposition was: we are all the sum of our Christ-mas Days. Professionally, it holds good. For better or for worse, every play that I have wrought during the last 25 years has been a song of Jarrow: simultaneously a celebration of the human spirit and an elegy for lost innocence. I have also tried to settle a few scores along the way.

But whenever I get too selfrighteous and uppity, I look at the signet ring on my finger, the watch on my wrist and the one-string fiddle on the shelf, and I hear a chorus of gentle Geordie voices saying: "Alan - put that xylophone down!"

Alan Plater's most recent work includes the screenplay for the BBC Televison series, Fortunes of War, A Very British Coop for Channel 4, and The Beiderbeck Connection, the third in his Beiderbeck saga for Yorkshire TV.

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FIFTY YEARS ON

One of the surest predictions for 1989 is that it will produce copious recollections of the outbreak of war against Hitler fifty years ago. Among the films of heroism, the documenta-ries of horror, the reminiscences of soldiers and diplomats, myth, fictions, memory and matters of painful fact will inevitably intermingle.

Of the fictions, the most obvious is that 1939 was the beginning of the Second World War. The scope of war in late 1939 was quite limited by comparison with the start of the last World War in late 1914. It continued to be so until Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941.

It was not really until the end of that year, more than two years after Britain declared war on Germany, that the conflict could accurately be described as global. Only then did the Japanese attack the Americans. Only then did Hitler, quite unnecessarily, though, from our point of view, providentially, declare war on the United States.

In this strict sense, it might be said, the First World War too began only with the entry of the Americans — in 1917. But such strictness would be misleading. War was virtually world wide in 1914. Apart from the United States, all of the world's great powers - the British. French, German, Austrian, Russian and Ottoman empires and Japan - were involved before the end of the year.

Was the decision in September 1939 more justified morally than in August 1914? Many British people nowadays, and especially the young, seem to believe that we were right to go to war with Hitler's Germany but wrong to go to war with the Kaiser's; that in 1914 the motive of our government was cynical oldworld "power politics", whereas in 1939 there was at least an element of idealism. This is largely nonsense, and it would be a pity if the 50th anniversary year were to confirm it in the public mind.

In truth, the reason that Britain went to war was essentially the same on both occasions. Moral obligation and national interest both drove the governments of the day to declare war, thus combining two of the most powerful motives necessary to sustain states through war. In 1914 the German invasion of Belgium left the government with no choice, although its members and advisers were divided on whether Germany's intentions threatened the

national existence. Britain's obligation to defend Belgium's integrity had been entered into - at a time when the Napoleonic war was still a recent memory - because it was regarded as a vital British interest. The object was to ensure that never again would a Continental great power be allowed to dominate the mouth of the river Scheldt. The genuine popular sentiment aroused by the spectacle of little Belgium trampled down by its big neighbour was helpful to the politicians, but not the determining cause of British intervention.

A guarantee again provided the casus belli in September 1939, but one much more recently given, and with a less cogent logic. Even many

of those who in general defend Neville Chamberlain's foreign policy must also feel that the correct moment for Britain to declare war would have been when Hitler entered Prague in March 1939.

Under the 1938 Munich agreement, which was then shown to be only a scrap of paper, Britain had given a solemn guarantee to the mutilated Czech state; when Hitler invaded it six months later Chamberlain was honourbound to act. Instead, he gave a guarantee to another "faraway" country, Poland, for whose sake Britain went to war in September.

British hearts and consciences were less stirred by the fate of Poland than they had been by that of Belgium a generation earlier. British leaders could do little or nothing to help the Poles as their country was overrun and vivisected in 1939.

Hitler was an infinitely more evil man than Kaiser Wilhelm II; his regime far more terrible than that of Imperial Germany. But the point is scarcely relevant to the cause of war, because in neither case was Britain'a motive for fighting a crusade to improve the character of the German state.

Hitler had to be fought. Had he gained mastery of the whole Eurasian land mass, the rest of the world could never have felt secure. Either he or some successor would have been tempted into further aggression, as Franklin D. Roosevelt understood.

But it was equally true, in 1914, that a German empire stretching from Brest to Vladivostok - which might well have resulted if Britain had failed to intervene - would have posed a mortal threat to the British empire and the rest of the world. That, however, is to judge by hindsight. The statesmen of the time did not see the situation in those dreadful terms. But an earlier British government had concluded a binding agreement which - while defending a narrow national interest - acted as a stabilising force in favour of the balance of competing national interests. It only did so, of course, so long as no state attempted to exploit the stability and tranquillity to expand its sphere of influence. It was to prevent this that Britain went to war in 1914.

Churchill rightly called the second great European war - which by strange processes became the Second World War - "unnecessary". It would never have occurred if the United States had not retreated into isolation after 1919, or if Britain and France had stuck together in defence of the Versailles Treaty.

In one respect, which we in Britain should never forget, the war did have a world wide character in 1939. Countries from every continent were represented in it by virtue of the fact that the old Dominions, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and (to a more limited degree) South Africa, entered the war at once voluntarily; and that India came in at once. too, sadly not by its own free choice, but with its army consisting of volunteers. Those who say that Britain stood completely alone in the crisis of 1940 are guilty of a shameful oblivion.

FRUITS OF PEACE

After 42 years of bitter dispute and 13 years of a bloody and fruitless war, south western Africa has taken its first real steps towards peace. If that journey is completed without serious mishap, the trilateral agreement signed by South Africa, Angola and Cuba at the United Nations in New York last week could mean more than the independence of Africa's last colony and the hope of national reconciliation in Angola.

It could mark the beginning of a long delayed era of security, stability and cooperation in southern Africa as a whole. For this reason alone, the agreement if implemented deserves to be hailed as the most important diplomatic breakthrough in Africa since the colonies first began to emerge into independence some 30 years ago.

In itself, however, and given the enduring mutual suspicion between the three signatories, the treaty is not an automatic guarantee of success. The complicated implementation of UN Resolution 435 and the staged withdrawal of Cuban troops into the north, and ultimately out, of Angola are both fraught with opportunities for bad faith and non-compliance.

Nevertheless, there are indications that the peace process has gained a momentum which will make it increasingly perilous for any of the participants wilfully to jump ship without sustaining serious diplomatie injury. It is therefore not too early to ignore the sceptics and to examine the profound changes which a Namibian peace could bring for the whole of south and central Africa.

For South Africa, the most important domestic gain is the end of a long and finaocially draining conflict and the winding down of its budgetary subventions of Windhock. It has also obtained a clear undertaking in the treaty that neither an independent Namibia nor Angola will play host to the ANC. The removal of the threat of ANC insurgency should also deny South Africa the excuse for the military adventures which have fueled fear and suspicion in neighbouring states.

In Namibia the benefits of international recognition will depend largely on whether its welcome to the councils of the world is backed up by financial assistance. An international community which has agitated so long for Namibia's freedom should not allow a country, blessed with natural resources, a small population and a well developed infrastructure, to deteriorate into yet another African basket case.

The departure of the last Cuban troops from Angola must also lead to reconciliation hetween the MPLA and Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita, which will continue to be fortified with American arms until the Soviet Union winds down its aid to Luanda. National reconciliation, which remains the key to American diplomatic approval and access to World Bank funds to rebuild the shattered economy of this resource rich country is high on the agenda of its landlocked neighbours anxiously awaiting the reopening of the Benguela railway line to provide them with a non-South African lifeline to the sea. Even Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe, who has thus far remained aloof from the peace moves in the sub-continent, reminded Luanda recently that national reconcilation could not work without the active participation of Mr Savimbi.

The new realism which has begun to animate southern African politics however, depends critically on the slow accretion of trust. South Africa - or at least that element within its body politic which has negotiated and supported the Namibian settlement - believes that a stable and mutually cooperative southern Africa will provide Pretoria with the time and the confidence to resolve its own very serious

Their cause will be strengthened if the international community learns the lesson of the last eight months - that talking and negotiation have succeeded where 42 years of sanctions and condemnation failed. It will be immeasurably weakened if the credibility South Africa gains through peace on its western border is wilfully squandered by South African advocates of continued destabilisation in Mozambique.

The policy of destabilisation had its roots in the belief, carefully fostered by South Africa's military strategists, that their country was faced with a Moscow-inspired total onslaught. The Soviet Union's new helpfulness in the resolution of regional conflicts, its reappraisal of the prospects of revolution in South Africa itself, have effectively destroyed the basis of

that philosophy. The prospect of continued cooperation between Moscow and Washington, however, presents Pretoria with both a challenge and an opportunity. Those who know that ultimately the answer to Southern Africa's problems lies not in the destabilisation of neighbouring states, but on peace inside South Africa itself, should seize and exploit it.

Disney discipline From Mr James V. Booth

Sir, Mr Sulke commenting from Hong Kong (November 7) says that, "only when a place is clean do people hesitate to make it dirty". The litter policy of the

Disneyland in Tokyo illuminates his point interestingly. Here, there are no litter bins and no asburys, yet the whole com-

and the second second second second

plex is spotless. The answer is an army of litter collectors, one of whom passes any given place every 15 minutes, hunting for offending rubbish.

If you are so reckless as to inquire where to throw something away, you are told to deposit it on the ground, as someone will soon be along to pick it op.

The place is so clean, however, that all but the most resolute of

litterbugs is unwilling to comply with these instructions, with the result that people go to extraor-dinary lengths to hide their litter from the public eye, and it is oot unheard of for people to burn their trouser pockets with cigarette

Yours faithfully, JAMES BOOTH, Flat Ikebukuro 303, Minami Ikebukuro 1-8-19,

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

of unborn child

From the Right Reverend Maurice Wood and others Sir, We are deeply concerned to hear of the proposed revision, by the UN Human Rights Commiss-ion, of the United Nations Declaration on the Right of the Child, originally promulgated in 1959. This new draft makes no reference to the child's need for appropriate legal protection before as well as after birth" (Pre-amble) and does not include the amble) and does not include the statement that "special care and protection shall be provided" to both mother and child, including "adequate pre-natal and post-natal care" (Principle 4), both of which are in the original declaration.

In the years since the declara-tion, medical technology has revealed ever more clearly that the foetus is not just a "lump of jelly" but a small human being — not potentially but actually — with his or her own genetic pattern, with a heart that beats and legs that kick and brain waves that can be

recorded months before birth. The proposed revision would leave the way open for abortion on demand and for use of human embryos for experimentation. It would be a dangerously retrograde

Yours faithfully, Yours faithfully, MAURICE WOOD, Chairman, Order of Christian Unity, CHARLIE COLCHESTER (General Director, Christian Action Research and Education), VALERIE RICHES (National Honorary Secretary, Family & Yonth Concern), JACK SCARISBRICK (National Chairman, Life (Save the Unborn

Child)), PHYLLIS BOWMAN (Director, Society for the Protection of Unborn Children), Christian Unity House 58 Hanover Gardens, SE11.

Heritage for sale

December 20.

From Mr Christopher M. Jackson Sir, Marcus Binney's article (December 3) on protecting Britain's heritage from the depreda-tions of the salerooms is symptomatic of a growing trend of thought, much fuelled by the recent decision to sell the Mappa Mundi, which seems to be grounded in parochialism.

Mr Binney agrees that the owners of "fitted" art treasures such as the statue of Lady Marie Howard at Holy Trinity, Wetheral, or the Grand Tour busts at Famborough Hall, Warwickshire, should not be permitted either to prise them from their settings or to sell them in situ for artificial prices.

No doubt, if they were foolish enough, 17th-century Marcus Binneys would have bemoaned the exploiting English who were depriving Italy of her heritage, as indeed would the Dutch of an earlier generation have com-plained of Italian noblemen furnishing their galleries with Dutch works.

What so many professional arts lobbyists fail to realise is that a thriving artistic culture exists not in spite of but because of the unrestricted operation of the free market. To decay exploitative salerooms is absurd - no great collections could ever have been built had countries imposed petty nationalistic restrictions or indeed on sales within the country.

To try to freeze the status quo of art collections is not only futile but helps kill the dynamic and developing nature of cultural life. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER JACKSON, 2 Maple Road,

Walking to school

Southsea, Hampshire.

From Mrs Jean Holden Sir, Mr Burrows (December 17) should contemplate the issues raised in R v Devon County Council (Law Report, December 2) which appear to have eluded him.

The words of the Education Act 1944 did not expressly provide that where it was impracticable for a child to cover the statutory-walking distance alone, his parents must accompany him. This sometimes onerous obligation observed in my letter (December 8) was not explicitly stated in section 39.

You report Lord Keith of Kinkel as stating that "It followed that Parliament had contemplated (my italies) that in appropriate cases a child would be accompanied to school". He was, of course, interpreting the statute. Yours sincerely, JEAN HOLDEN, Greenscombe Barn,

Callington, Cornwall. December 18.

Arms realities From Mr Denis Young

Sir, Michael Heseltine's welcome ("Arms reduction, arms reality", December 9) is drowned by his suspicions. It is not for the layman to challenge his figures or disagree with his concern that Russia's limited disarmament might cause us to weaken our defences, but his warnings are oot so much uncharitable as foolish.

Firstly, it is unreasonable to expect a Russian leader to promise a big enough arms reduction in one go to allay Mr Heseltine's doubts. Did anyone anticipate the improvement there has been? And can we expect more from Mr Gorbachov's replacement, after his internal opponents, seeing his

Protecting rights No deterrence in student loans

From Mr W. Pisarski Sir, As a German ex-student, who studied at universities both in Germany and in England, I follow the current debate on the mtroduction of student loans in England with great interest, as such a scheme has already been introduced in Germany since 1983. Prior to this date students qualified for a maintenance grant, the amount of which depended on their and their parents' income.

However, since then students only receive an interest-free loan from the Government, currently at an average rate of £170 per mouth for the whole year, i.e., 12 months. With an average time of study of five-and-a-half years students in Germany face a debt of around £13,000 at the end of their training, which they have to start repaying three years later at a minimum monthly rate of £30.

Most critics of the proposed scheme in England argue that the introduction of a loan scheme would deter students from pursuing higher education. Reviewing figures in Germany, one may be surprised to learn that the opposite seems to have happened and that the introduction of student loans did not deter students from entering university. Whereas in 1983 1.2 million students were registered at universities and polytechnics, the number had swollen to 1.5 million in 1988.

Taking into account that the average time spent at an English university rarely exceeds three or four years, students in this country would have a smaller debt at the end of their studies than their fellows abroad, whilst having similar terms to repay their loan.

It would therefore seem that there is no direct correlation between the method of finance for higher education and the number of students taking up university training and although students may not be thrilled by the idea of accumulating debts, it would be hard to justify why they should continue enjoying a high degree of Government support when other, more needy, groups in society have to accept cuts in their benefit entitlement_ Yours faithfully,

W. PISARSKI, 8 Middlemist Grove, Great Barr, Birmingham, West Midlands.

From Mr James Platt Sir, The student loans arrangements in the USA have made it possible for hondreds of thousands of young people and mature entrants to attend college. I know of students who have made a profit by reinvesting their loan. Some banks have offered interest rates higher than that charged for the student loan, and students have raised the highest loan possible.

The eggs scare

From Mr David Curry, MP for Skipton and Ripon (Conservative) and MEP for Essex North East (European Democrat (Conser-

Sir, The claim that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food had turned itself into a "Colonial Office" for the NFU by introducing measures to support the egg industry (Robin Oakley's article, December 21) shows a seasonal sense of humour but little acquaintance with agricultural politics over the past five or six

In fact, the necessary policies of restraining surplus production in the European Community and bringing enforceable discipline to bear on farm spending have imposed genuine and serious income losses to a wide sector of British agriculture as well as (often more seriously) to Continental farmers. This has meant a frequent collision between the Government and the farming comm-

unity. Mr Michael Jopling, MP, was ferociously attacked as minister of agriculture for the introduction of milk quotas. His successor, John MacGregor, MP, (christened "Mac the Knife" by the farming press), has faced heavy criticism over the state of the pig industry, decline in cereal farmers' income and cuts in research and dev-elopment. Both ministers have routinely been burnt in effigy over the "green pound" problem of intra-Community trade.

Help was necessary for the egg industry because thousands of small producers with modest incomes and guilty of no negligence were threatened with bankruptcy. The support measures are coupled with the introduction of codes of practice, parts of which will become statutory; stringent mon-itoring of animal protein feed; the registratioo of flocks and hatcheries for hygiene purposes and the strengthening of controls relating to imported animal protein.

policies as unproductive, have overthrown him?

Secondly, the uncommitted nations, at last coming to realise to some extent that the West stands for peace, while the Russians have, for 40 years been threatening it, are likely to reverse the roles and see us as perpetuating the discord. That may be based on false reasoning, but it will do damage to all of us, whatever is true of the Russian monves.

Thirdly, any unilateral concession is so much better than none, not just for its present substance, but also for its future potential. Of course there is little enough altruism behind the disarmament, as may be said of the policies of any nation. But the

Youngsters with In Norway, to quote a closer yet nowhere to go less well known example, the State Loan Bank specialises in offering loans to students on special in-From Mr David Gadbury terest rates. Some years ago I spoke alongside the then Prime Minister — who was most courte-ously and amiably received — al

the 25th anniversary conference of

the Association of Norwegian

Students Abroad. All present, and

their thousands of predecessors, had been lent money by SLB to study abroad. Student loans were

seperally thought a useful if not

essential part of the higher edu-

cation process.

ours sincerely

JAMES PLATT,

3 Mayflower Way.

Buckinghamshire, December 19.

Farnham Common,

From Mr William P. Ledger

Sir, Dr. E. A. Patterson (December

to) tests my credulity in complaining of the immorality of being forced to advise a student to

seek a bank overdraft. He partially redeems himself by concluding that a monthly stipend would provide financial independence,

but in doing so lays himself open to the charge of cootradiction: to

borrow money from the Govern-ment creates independence, whilst

to do so from a private financial

experience in assisting students

and thus are naturally well placed

to continue in this area. What is

required is co-ordination between

the Inland Revenue and the banks

to ensure that repayments are

made in accordance with income.

Furthermore, will the Oppo-sition, the NUS and many

academics accept the example set

by thousands of students who

already take out loans and under-

take temporary work during vaca-

tions and in term time, or will they attempt to crush this flourishing

self-help ethos?

Yours faithfully

hour.

JOHN HARRIS,

December 14.

to the contrary.

December 21.

Yours sincerely, DAVID CURRY,

House of Commons

WILLIAM P. LEDGER.

20 West Common Way, Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

From Mr John Harris

Services rendered?

Sir, To read, examine and mark a University of Cambridge Board of Graduate Studies MPhil thesis took five hours, including check-ing some references at the Royal

Institute of British Architects. I

wrote the report in an hour and

posted the thesis back at my expense (about £1,20).

Today I have received a remit-tance from the Fees Clerk of £6.

My professional services have

been rewarded at the rate of £1 an

This is a consumer package not a producer blank cheque. The

notion that the MAFF is a branch

office of the "farm lobby" is a tired

myth; the scars borne by both

ministers and farm leaders testify

From Professor D. L. Hughes Sir, The Government has cut its support for research into animal

disease. As a consequence the Agricultural and Food Research

Council is being forced to close its Houghton Poultry Research In-

This institute, the only one in the UK exclusively devoted to poultry disease problems, had an international reputation for its research. It made fundamental

contributions to our understand-

ing of many disease problems with spin-offs into general biological science and medicine, and all this

activity is now to be given up. We

shall lose outstanding knowledge and expertise coupled with incom-

parable and expensive facilities for

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

has had to reduce its support for

cootracted-out research, still fur-ther reducing the activity in other

AFRC institutes concerned with

Within the MAFF structure the

thrust of the Veterinary Investiga-tion Service within the Agri-cultural Development and Advis-ory Service has been forced to

reduce its activity to what are

regarded as economic and market orientations so that its capacity to act as a front-line warning system

for animal disease problems has

Russians are now closer to inter-

national harmony than they have

been for the last 70 years. Besides,

however crafty they may in theory

turn out to have been, the ferment

of a perestroika and a glasnost that

are courished by the rest of the

world will soon reach the point

where no ooe is capable of

reversing them. Suspicion in the

face of what has been achieved

could drive them back into their

Mr Heseltine, in so far as he still

affects British policy, is a harmful

influence. Our response must be

warmer and our reservations less

public. Yours faithfully, DENIS YOUNG,

The Old Manse,

Control on the Section of the Control of the

Glenlyon, Perthshire.

animal disease.

been weakened.

Yours faithfully,

D. L. HUGHES,

December 22.

Llanrhaeadr, Nr Denbigh, Clwyd.

Ty Maen, Llwyn-y-Rhos,

Furthermore the Ministry of

research into poultry infections.

stitute near Huntingdon.

16 Limerston Street, SW10.

The banks have many years'

institution is immoral.

Sir, For 50 years the cinema in our town of 30,000 people has provided a harmless, sociable and alcohol-free place of enter-tainment for successive generations of youngsters. The owners have just announced its closure, and within a few months we may expect to see it turned into a supermarket or a car park - another triumph of the market forces of which our Government is so proud.

But the problem is that these self-same market forces do not appear to be able to provide anywhere else for our youngsters to go in the evenings other than pubs, wine bars or take-aways. Public transport has been destroyed because it doesn't pay (in profit terms), so the tecnagers can't get to the diminishing number of entertainments elsewhere. Councils can't do anything because they've been rate-capped, and the schools have been forced to cut back on virtually all afterclass activities.

Twenty-five years ago every town would have had two or more cinemas, coffee bars, perhaps a jazz club, possibly a ballroom, an ice rink or bowling alley. Even if it didn't, we could always catch the train to somewhere which did.

Now, there is absolutely nothing. Perhaps someone can tell me what to advise my 13-year-old daughter to do when she wants to meet her friends in a safe and friendly environment away from

ours faithfully DAVID GADBURY, Three Trees, Worsted Lane, East Grinstead, Sussex. December 16.

Secretarial reply

From Mrs A. G. Baines Sir, I read Bernard Levin's article ("Keeping the Commons touch", December 12) with some irrita-tion. Not only do MPs have unsuitable offices for their job; some of the secretaries are even

As secretary to a member of Parliament I share a room measuring 13ft by 16ft with three other secretaries in one of the outbuildings, which gives us less space each than Mr Levin has in his office. The level of noise from word-processor printers and tele-phones is, at times, almost intol-erable and always stressful.

We often deal with upset constituents with complex problems and not to be able to hear them is embarrassing to say the

My desk is too small for the office technology I need to use; there is no space on it to write and so I use a book balanced on my knee. The veneer is so badly worn that I constantly snag clothes and tights. I am not covered by any

kind of employer liability in-That MPs have, for so long, tolerated such conditions for secretaries and research assistants, and, indeed, for their own work I find appalling. Yours faithfully, ALICE BAINES, 26 Buckles Way,

Banstead, Surrey. Colour blind

From Mr A. M. Thomas
Sir, Philip Howard's credible speculation ("New words for old", December 6) on how the Latin word flavus (pale or golden yellow) became blavus (blue) then reverted, whilst retaining the latter hue, reminds me of a pro-Darwinian theory, proposed by Hans Magnus in 1877, of gradual evolution in the human's colour-

Goethe had already noticed that the Pythagoreans had not mentioned the colour blue. Hans Magnus examined the Bible, the Homeric poems, the hymns of Rig-Veda and the Zen-Avesta for colour references and noticed the absence of green as well as blue.

Presuming the authors incapable of seeing these colours in trees and skies, be identified the cause as partly-developed colour sensitivity in the retina, still gradually evolving from the primitive state when the retinal still gradually evolving from the primitive state when the retinal still gradually evolving from the primitive state when the retinal still gradually evolving from the primitive state when the retinal still gradually evolving from the primitive state when the still gradual still gradually evolving from the primitive state when the still gradual gradual still gradual still gradual still gradual still gradual itive state when the retina was "analogous to that of its peripheral zones at the present day" - i.e., every colour losing its true characteristics to appear as a gray, more or less light".

Should such a theory prove accurate in the centuries to come, future generations will experience colours now unimaginable - an exciting prospect.
Yours faithfully,
ANEURIN M. THOMAS, Netherwood, 8 Lower Cwrt-y-Vil Road,

Penarth, South Glamorgan. Ouote of the year?

From Mrs Sheila Rhodes Sir, Thinking back over the year I wonder what would be readers' favourite quote from your contributors?

I liked Barbara Amiel's observation (Friday Page, "Confidential confessions", August 19): "One cannot attach moral blame to men when they happen to treat relationships like light switches, to be noticed only when not working."

Yours, SHEILA RHODES, 16 Cashio Lane, Letchworth, Hertfordshire, December 15.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number (01)782 5046.



COURT AND SOCIAL

The Queen's message

History as beacon of inspiration

to Britain and the Commoowealth.

Scated at a desk in the Regency Room at Buckingham Palace, with a candle-lit Christmas tree beside her, the Queen said: "Recently, many of you will have set up and decorated a Christmas tree in your homes. Often these are put by a window and the bright and shining tree is there for every passer-by to see and share. I like to think that if someone who feels lonely and unloved should see such a tree, that person might feel 'It was meant for me'."

She added: "May the Christmas story encourage you, for it is a message of hope every year, not for a few, but for all."

This year's broadcast, the third produced by Sir David Attenboroogh. contained oo surprises, unlike the Queen's references to the Remem-brance Sunday explosion at Enniskillen in last year's broadcast.

It was simple and the Queen wearing a grey and pastel blue silk tweed suit and printed silk blouse used only the barest number of props.

She emphasized a message drawn from historic anniversaries celebrated this year with a tiny patchbox which once belonged to Queen Mary, who ruled Britain jointly with her husband William of Orange in the seventeenth century; an engraving from the House of Lords' Armada Tapestry; an 1823 print of Sydney Harbour; and a Nativity scene from a medieval Book

The Queen said that centenaries, such as the 300th anniversary of the Glorious Revolution, the 400th anniversary of the Armada and Australia's bicentennial, might seem rather arbitrary occasions, but they prompted one to look into the past.

When we do so, we can draw hope from seeing how ancient enmitties have vanished; and how new nations have grown and established themselves in vigour and wisdom. Equally, they make us reflect on injustices and tragedies and inspire us to do our best to learn from these as well."

The text of the message is:

The Queen spoke of the universal message of hope of the Christmas some notable anniversaries. The story in her Christmas Day broadcast events which they marked were hundreds of years apart, hut each was important enough to get much atten-

tion in 1988. The earliest event which we remembered was the encounter with the Spa-nish Armada in 1588. The 400th anniversary fell in the same year in which we were able to mark the happy relations between Britain and Spain which now exist, by our state visit to

Four hundred years after "the winds hlew" and the Spanish ships were scattered, the events were remembered, without animosity, in both countries. This year, the present

• We can draw hope from seeing how ancient enmities have vanished;

and how new nations have grown and established themselves in vigour and wisdom.

King of Spain showed me the rooms in the Escorial, where his predecessor. Philip the Secood, planned the campaign. Had the fortunes of war gone against us. how very differently events in Britain and Europe would have uofolded.

Earlier in the year, we marked another event of the first importance in our history - the 300th anniversary of what is popularly known as the Glorious Revolution.

The invitation to King William and Queen Mary to accept the thrones of England and Scotland finally laid to rest the "enterprise of England" which Philip of Spain set in hand.

It thus gave the particular direction to our history which was to lead to the development of parliamentary de-mocracy and the tradition of political and religious toleration which Britain enjoys today.

It was a great pleasure for us to celebrate that event in the company of the Crown Prince of The Netherlands. In the year just past, Prince Philip and Together we visited Torbay - which

Lockerbie air disaster.

Cathedral.

strangely lifted?

common humanity."

"In the response to both

that speech and that disaster

were to be seen oot just

unilateral giving, but a mutual

giving and receiving.
"I have seen it in the swift

and generous reponse to

Armenia, Clapham and Lock-

the imaginative response to

our appeals to reverse the

decline and despair of urban

brance for hostages in the

Mr Patric Dickinson, poet and playwright, 74; Mr Alastair Dunnett, former chairman, Thomson Scottish Petroleum,

Thomson Scottish Petroleum, 80; Baroness Faithfull, 78; Sir Christopher Hewetson, former president, Law Society, 59; Mr Rohan Kanhai, cricketer, 53; Professor Thea King, clarineatist, 63; Miss Jane Lapotaire, actress, 44; Mr Denis Quilley, actor, 61; Sir Mark Tennant, civil setvant. 77.

Boxing Day

birthdays

"I have been moved too by

crbic."

black-spots.

was where King William landed in

It was shrouded with fog when we were there, but we did manage to see through the mist some of the hundreds of British and Dutch yachts that had assembled there.

The 1988 anniversary season opened in Australia - with a grand party on Australia Day to mark the country's 200th birthday. It was a party which went on for most of the year, but Prince Philip and I joined in the festivities in April and May.
Like so many visitors in bicenten-

nial year we brought home some souvenirs of our visit.

In our case it was some delightful early prints of Sydney, which served to remind us of the extraordinary developments which have taken place in Australia in the short space of 200

The scenes of Sydney harbour contrast vividly with the pictures we all saw of the crowded waters around the opera house and the famous bridge in January this year. Centenaries may seem rather arbitrary occasions, but they nooetheless prompt us to look back into the past.

When we do so, we can draw hope from seeing how ancient enmitties have vanished; and how new oations have grown and established themselves in vigour and wisdom.

Equally, they make us reflect on injustices and tragedies and inspire us to do our best to learn from these as To do that, we surely should draw

inspiration from one other anniversary - the one we celebrate every year at this time, the hirth of Christ. There are many grand and splendid

pictures in the royal collection that illustrate this eveot, hut one which gives me particular pleasure is a precious, almost jewel-like book. It is a "Book of Hours", full of prayers and devotional readings. It's in Latin, but it contains the most exquisite illuminations and it is these

that speak to us most movingly. The anonymous person who drew the pictures nearly 500 years ago has included all the familiar elements of the Christmas story which we hear with such pleasure every year.

We find the angels, bringing the glad tidings to the shepherds, who listen attentively; the baby Jesus lies in his stall, with Mary and Joseph watching

The star over the stable has lit the way for all of us ever since, and there should be oo-one who feels shut out from that welcoming and guiding

The legends of Christmas about the ox and the ass suggest that even the animals are not outside that loving

Recently, many of you will have set up and decorated a Christmas tree in your homes. Often these are put by a window and the bright and shining tree is there for every passer-by to see

I like to think that if someone who feels lonely and unloved should see such a tree, that person might feel "It was meant for me".

May the Christmas story encourage you, for it is a message of hope every year, not for a few, but for all. So in sending you my Christmas greeting, I pray that God may bless

you - every one. As you probably all know, my Christmas broadcast has to be recorded well before Christmas Day so that it can be made available to radio and television stations throughout the

Commonwealth. Since I made that recording this year we have all been shocked and distressed by a series of major disasters — here in Britain, the worst air crash in our history at Lockerbie and a serious train accident at Clapham; and in Armenia a terrible

carthquake. All three came with great suddenness and destroyed the lives of many people who were looking forward to celebrating Christmas with their families and friends.

So, there are many homes today where the joy of Christmas has been darkened by a cloud of sadness and

Our hearts and prayers go out to those who have been mjured and bereaved and it is my hope that the eternal message of Christmas will bring some comfort in the hour of

OBITUARIES

HUMPHREY BROOKE

Royal Academy Secretary who became world expert on roses

Mr Humphrey Brooke, CVO, Secretary of the Royal Acad-enty of Arts from 1952 to 1968, died on Christmas Eve at the age of 74. He was only the third Secretary of the Royal Academy since the inception of the post in 1873.

Thomas Humphrey Brooke was born on January 31, 1914, the younger son of Major and Mrs Thomas Brooke, of Brimston Manor, York. He was educated at Wellington College and Magdalen College, Oxford, where he took a First in Modern History in 1035

In 1937 he joined the staff of the Public Record Office as Assistant Keeper but this service was interrupted by the Second World War.

He was commissioned in the King's Royal Rifle Corps in 1943. In the last two years of the war he was Director of Archives of the Sub-Commission for Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives, Allied Control Commission, Italy.

He became the Cootroller, Monuments and Fine Arts Branch, Allied Commission for Austria, in 1946, the year in which he was married to Countess Nathalie Benckendorff, who was the Nathalie granddaughter of the last ammbassador of Imperial Russia to the Court of St

Brooke's next post was as Deputy Keeper of the Tate Gallery, in 1948, but, in the following year, he transferred to the Ministry of Town and Country Planning for a while before resigning from the Civil Service on his appointment to the Royal Academy, first of all under the Presidency of Sir Gerald Kelly, then of Sir Charles Wheeler from 1956 to 1966, followed by a short spell with Sir Thomas Monnington.

He was made MVO in 1958,



from Portugal, Italy and

Uodouhtedly Humphrey Brooke was highly intelligent and energetic but had the great misfortune to suffer from manic depression. He himself wrote that this disorder (which he preferred to style by its American name Bi-Polar Effective Disorder, as being a more accurate description of the affliction) was first diagnosed in January, 1964, and that it caused alternate but unpredictable periods of dy-namic energy and virtual paralysis.

This was trouble enough but the situation was worsened by the chronic illness of his young son, who eventually died, and the tragic death of He was made MVO in 1958, one of his two daughters. He advanced to CVO in 1969, and received other honours Royal Academy in 1968 and,

changing from an active life of public work, albeit relieved by his recreations of shooting and fishing, he thereafter devel-oped his interest in gardening.

In particular he became truly expert in the cultivation of old roses, and his expertise gained him a reputation which went beyond rose growing circles io this country. On one occasion the Appalachian Wildlife Nursery of Penoysylvania requested specimens of the hips of a gigantic seedling rose, which had previously only been known from fossils. In 1971 he founded a

rosarium in Suffolk, specifically dedicated to the preservation and conservation of roses.

He is survived by his wife

SANDRINGHAM,

COURT

CIRCULAR

December 25: Divine Service was held at Sandringham Parish Church this morning.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.G. Ablett and Mins J.M. Scott The engagement is announced between Martin, only son of Mr and Mrs Peter Ablett, of Toddington, Gloncestershire, and Janet, daughter of Mr and Mrs Frederick Scott, of Newport, Gwent.

Mr I. Athanasiadis and Miss S.J.A. Williams

The engagement is announced between loannis, son of the late Mr Nicholas Athanasiadis and of Mrs Marina Athanasiadis, of Athens, and Sophie, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Williams, of Rose Revived, Liantrithyd, Cowbridge, South Glamorgan.

Mr A.R.G. Baldwin and Miss R.M. Holmström

The cassement is appounced between Drew, younger son of Squadron Leader RM. Bal-dwin, RAF (Rtd), and Mrs Baldwin, of Princes Risborough, Buckioghamshire, and Margareta, daughter of Herr och Fru G.S. Holmström, of Skellesteå, Sweden.

Mr A.R. Bond and Miss J.F. Dean

The engagement is approximed between Andrew, only son of Mrs Joan Bond, of Lewes, Sussex, and Josephine, elder daughter of the late Mr and Mrs J.E. Dean, of Newcastle upon

Mr M.M.H. Brown and Miss L.M. Carr

The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Brown, of Noke, Oxfordshire, and Laura, daughter of Mr and Mrs Samuel Carr, of Chelsen, London.

Mr S.J. Cuppleditch and Miss C.J. Tipton

Mr and Mrs Peter Tipton, of Orton Goldhay, Peterborough, are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter Cara, to Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs T.L. Cuppleditch, of Stickford, Lincolnshire.

Mr M.S. Penfold and Miss R.M. Humphries

"I think of the evening The engagement is announced when across all the frootiers of between Matthew Stephen, el-dest son of Mr and Mrs S.E. Penfold, of Sydney, Australia, faith we gathered to remember the sufferings that began for and Rona Mary, younger daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs A.J. Humphries, of Romford, Essex. Jews in Europe 50 years ago. "Or again, I think of the worldwide warmth of remem-

Dr J.W.P. Rose and Dr J.E. Cheetham

The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Professor and Mrs J.B. Rose, of Guildford, Surrey, and Jane, only daughter of Dr and Mrs H.D. Cheetham, of Dartford.

Mr M.R. Wells and Miss S.J. King

The engagement is announ The engagement is announced between Martin, elder son of Mr and Mrs G. Wells, of Guildford, Surrey, and Sarah, elder daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs Albie King, of

Archbishop of Canterbury's message

Runcie sees 'surge of generosity'



September of the state of the s Dr Robert Rancie making his Christmas address from the pulpit of Canterbury Cathedral.

Lebanon and the opening up of fresh determination to deal with the injustices of that

"I think, too, of the unease created order in which the Scriptures so firmly put the birth of Christ.

BIRTHS: Thomas Gray, poet,

1716; Charles Babbage, pioneer of the calculating machine, 1792; Dion Boucicault, actor

and dramatist, 1822; Henry Miller, novelist, 1891.

DEATHS: John Wilkes, political reformer, 1797; James Stephens, covenist and poet, 1950; Charles Pathé, film producer, 1957; Harry S. Truman, 33rd President of the USA 1945-53, 1972.

Anniversaries

"As we listen to those who

wonderfully made is saying, 'gently, friend, gently pray'. of thoughtful people when Here too, the giving and they ponder the fragility of the receiving of Christmas has its

speak the new language of the or the search for culprits. We greenhouse effect or the ozone need the proper sharing of need the proper sharing of layer, it is as if the world He so gifts. "In thankfulness to God for Christmas may we so learn to give that others may receive.

"For a world in danger in so many ways, we need more than the removal of obstacles

Mr Vernon Francis Craig, of Kew, Surrey, left estate valued at £989,636 net. His wife Mrs Margaret Ursula Craig, left

estate valued at £614,457 net. They each left: £30,000 each to

Latest wills

and so learn to receive that others may give. Then we shall know in these last days that God has spoken to us in His Son'."

Clubs, the London Union Youth Clob, King Edward VII Hospital, London, RNLI, Salvatax paid): tion Army, the Royal Geo-graphical Society, the Royal Engineers Yacht Club, RSPB,

the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, PDSA, the Irish Wild Bird Conservancy, Brooke Hospital for Animals, the Anglo Italian Society for the Protection of Animals, the Greek Animal Welfare Fand, They each left: £30,000 each to Cliftoo College, Bristol, Emmanuel College, Cambridge, Chehenham Ladies' College, Somerville College, Oxford, and the Royal Engineers Benevolent Fund; £20,000 to the National Trust, £10,000 to the National Army Museum, and £5,000 each to Dr Barnardo's, Surrey Yomh

Other estates include (net before

Mr Victor Birns, of London
SW12
Mr Percy Brown, of Lytham St
Annes, Lancs £628,811.
Mr Victor David Chapman, of
London SE21 £401,183.
Joan Sylvia Cottrell, of York,
North Yorks £331,053.
Barbara Mary Debson, of
London SW7 £637,548.
Mrs Jean Mary Farmer, of Mrs Jean Mary Farmer, of Hasiemere, Surrey £304,736. Denise Madeleine De Carteret Hellard, of Sandwich, Kent 5399,983.

Mr Stanley Hutchinson, of Saods, High Wycombe, Bucks. £326,725. Mr Francis William Charles Long, of Wendover, Dr Ulric Paul Seldel, of London NW6. 5323,274. Dr Peter Josef Gabriel States. Sussex £442,466.
Mrs Audrey Mabel Stovin, of Claythorpe, Lanes £349,549.
Mr Richard Emlyn Williams, of

Mr Thomas Mitchell Bennett, of Ham, Surrey ______ £511,444. Mrs Elizabeth Ruggles-Brise, of Harlow, Essex... £511,499.

Mrs Irene Julia Cooper, of Basford, Newcastle-uoder-Lyme, Staffs £317,136. Mr Frank Decky, of Raisall Common West Сошшоо, £285,325. Mrs Enid Margaret Edwards, of Barton on Sea, Hants £339,939.

DOWAGER DUCHESS of DEVONSHIRE Royal and public service

The Dowager Duchess of Devonshire, GCVO, CBE, died on Christmas Eve at the she accompanied him on in the days when Royal

In the years following her bereavement, with the death of her husband, the 10th Duke, in 1950, she was actively engaged in differing spheres, in Royal service as Mistress of the Robes to the Concent from 1953 to 1966 Oneen from 1953 to 1966, and, almost simultaneously, in an academie office, as imperial conferences.

Chancellor of Exeter University from 1956 to 1970. Mary Alice Cecil was born on July 29, 1895, daughter of the 4th Marquess of Salisbury and Lady Cicely Alice Gore. Her brother was "Bobbety" Salisbury, later to be a Member of Parliament, and then 5th Marquess of Salisbury, Leader of the House of Lords, and a Conservative statesman of independent judgement; their paths were to cross in

their public duties, later in life. As Lady Mary Cecil she married the then Lord Hartington, later to be 10th Duke of Devonshire in 1917. He was at that time serving in the Army, and had already been mentioned in dispatches

lengthy tour he made of Australia, as Under-Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs.

renew friendly personal contacts previously established at

They had two sons - the younger being the present Duke, the elder having been killed in action while serving with the Coldstream Guards in 1944 - and two daughters.

The Labour landslide of 1945 relieved the 10th Duke of further public office, but there remained only a few years for him and his wife to

enjoy custodianship of Chatsworth, the family seat. He died in 1950, at the early age of 55.

With her natural energ of mind the Dowager Duchess embarked oo a career in her own right. Of her duties as Mistress of the Queen's Wardrobe she once humorously remarked that in modern

wardrobes arrived loaded on 16 mule backs as a present from the King of Spain". When, in 1955, the Univer-

sity College of the South-West received its charter as Excter University, she was a natural candidate for the post of Chancellor. True her brother, the 5th Lord Salisbury, had been the college's president since 1945, and might have been expected to become the new university's first Chancellor. But he declined, having an already heavy burden of public duties, among them the Chancellorship of Liverpool

University. With berlinks with Exeterher uncle, Lord William Cecil had been its Bishop for 20 years - the Dowager Duchess was glad to accept the post.

One of the principal events during her tenure of office was the opening of a students' block, named Devonshire House, with modern refectory and social facilities.

A woman of great spirit the Dowager Duchess had been a keen golfer and gardener in her earlier years.

. Schramme claimed later in

In 1968 Schramme, and the

remnants of the mercenaries, were finally evacuated under International Red Cross

Back in Belgium, Schramme faced a murder

charge arising from the shoot-

ing of a fellow countryman

supervision via Rwanda.

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at Gallipoli. COLONEL 'BLACK JACK' SCHRAMME Leader of mercenaries in the Congo

Colonel Jean ("Black Jack") only slipping further into anSchramme, one of the bestknown white mercenary leaders in the Congo after the ional Army.

Schramme claimed a book about his life.
In 1968 Schramme, remnants of the mercenants of the mercenants. Schramme, who had gone to

former Belgian colony became independent in 1960, has died the Congo as a youth and become a big plantation owner, found the cause he thought he was upholding abandoned by influential busiin Brazil, aged 59. Schramme, who was born into a well-connected Bruges lawyer family, had at first supported Moise Tshombe, ness interests outside the lighting with his forces for the Congo as the years of bitter fighting and destruction got independence of the breakaway Katanga province against United Nations troops sent to uphold the Kinshasa

But later Schramme fought for President Mobutu before

cowboy actor, died on Decem-

Starting his screen career at the age of 14, he appeared in more than 400 films and came

to prominence during the 1930s as one of "The Three Mesquiteers", a Western se-

ries in which his co-stars

included John Wayne, Roy

Rogers and Duncan Renaldo.

Despite his modest height, he projected a tough and virile

ber 22 at the age of 82.

turning against him when the Belgian judged the Congo was

He held, perhaps simplemindedly, to the belief that a European presence was vital for the eouotry's dev-elopment. "I am a white African who wanted to defend

his country against subversion

whom he regarded as a Mobutu spy. Schramme managed, however, to escape while under detention. He decided against going back to Africa, settling down in Brazil as a farmer. Extradition was refused, but last year a court in Belgium found him guilty of the murder and sentenced him in absentia to 20 years' jail.

BOB STEELE

Prolific screen actor of Western roles Bob Steele, the American well known on television as

personality, though often his icy stare was enough to chase the villains out of town without firing a shot or landing a

Away from cowboy films he was memorable as the sadistic bully, Curty, in the 1939 version of Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men and he played villainous Camino in the Raymond Chandler thriller, The Big Sleep.

During the 1960s he was

He continued to take character parts in Westerns up to the 1970s and among his later films were Rio Bravo,

comedy, F Troop.

'em High.

The Comancheros and Hang

Trooper Duffy in the military

Steele was an outstanding

athlete and trained as a boxer,

experience which came in

useful when he emerged as a

cowboy star in the 1920s.

Linecarian, Barry, South

01-481 4000

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

BIRTHS Kiróv - On December 15th to Gabrielle (née Mallet) and George, a daughter, Anna Marie,

DEATHS

BROOKE - On December 24th 1988
(Thomas) Humphrey C.V.O.
Suddenly and peacefulty in Yorkshire aged 74, husband of Nathalie. and Father of Sophie

POOLE - On December 23rd peacefully at his home in Norwich, Stuart John SERVICES

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SCIENCE REPORT

Mice given Aids genes in fight to defeat the virus

archers at the US Nat-H) in Washington, who e used the techniques of ctic engineering to create

e which have genes from Aids virus incorporated every cell of their bodies. he altered mice develop all symptoms of the disease, king the first time any mai besides man has sufd from full-blown Aids.

Ialcolm Martin and col-;nes at the NIH and the versity of Connecticut pubed their development in week's issue of the US nal, Science.

Vithout the ability to study v the Aids virus infects and ses disease in an animal t can be kept in the pratory, scientists have had ard time studying Aids and ng to find a cure.

tesearchers have had to ke the best of incomplete mal analogues of Aids: re species of monkey fail y to an Aids-like disease sed by a related virus, and ough chimpanzees can be cted with the Aids virus If they do not develop

fartin's mice, designed to ry genes from the Aids e, because they contain es that have been transed into them artificially. ransgenic mice are not t: they were first developed out five years ago in studies he genetic causes of cancer, genes from the Aids virus in Change-Times News Service 1968.

e university has appointed

nes McEwen. Professor of mmunity Medicine at King's

llege School of Medicine &

evolutionary new way of and their inventors were lying Aids in the lab-tory has been found by first US patent on a living animal. But the work done by il Institutes of Health Martin and his colleagues is the first time genes from an agent which causes an infections disease have been transferred into mice.

To create the transg Aids mice, Martin and his group injected genes from the virus into fertilized mouse eggs, and implanted them into female mice. Sixty-four mice were born, but only seven had taken up the genes in all their None of the original seven

transgenic mice developed Aids, but about a half of the offspring of one of the transgenic mice, and a small number of offspring from another, died after about a month from Aids symptoms.

Moreover, whole viruses could be isolated from the tissue of some of the dead mice, indicating that it was indeed Aids that killed them. The transgenic mice develop symptoms that are very similar to those shown by human sufferers of Aids, which means they can be used by researchers to test new drugs being developed to treat Aids.

They can also be used to understand better how the disease progresses: the mice become iil with a type of pneumonia often seen in Aids patients, and they also develop swollen lymph glands and a skin disease characteristic of

Because the mice contain

University News

their offspring, they have to be kept in a specially-designed laboratory to prevent them from escaping and mating with wild mice. They are kept in cages inside a sealed 30-foot perspex box with a pair of rubber gloves mounted on the side so that researchers can handle them.

The box has two doors, but anything entering or leaving must first pass through an autoclave, a pressure cooker-like device used to sterilize laboratory equipment. A mouse could not survive passage through the autoclave doors, and the only other route of escape would require swimming submerged through the 40-gallon most of bleach that surrounds the mice's cages.

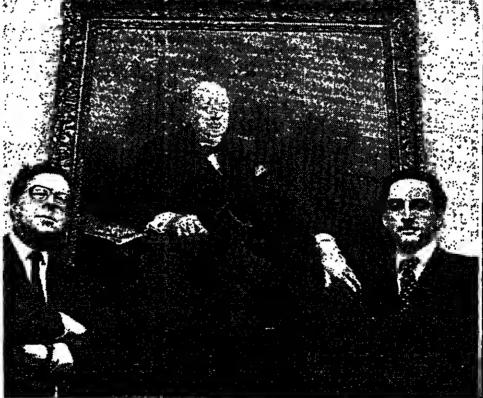
Unfortunately, the extraordinary escape precautions have backfired in this instance. Earlier this month, the ventilation system for the box containing the mice was shut off inadvertently during laboratory maintenance work at the weekend. When the researchers came back to work on Monday moraing, they found all but three of the 130

mice in the breeding colony dead from overheating.

Martin says he and his coworkers will need three to six months to breed enough mice to get their research back on track. In the meantime, he will be looking for a less valuerable way to keep the mice safely

Carol Ezzell

Commons' first art adviser



By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

The House of Commons has appointed its first honorary adviser for its art collection. He is Mr Philip Mould, aged 28, a Bond Street dealer, seen here on the right beneath Oswald Butler's portrait of Sir Winston Churchill with Mr Patrick Cormack, MP, chairman of the Commons Works of Art Committee.

Parliament's art collection is extensive, but "We are always interested to repair omissions in the collection", Mr Cormack said. Mr Mould has already found two portraits, of William Huskisson, first person to be killed by a train, in 1830, and Edward Coleman, a

nineteenth century Serjeant at Arms, painted by Anton Hickel. "I am thrilled at being involved with such an important collection, and will attempt to alert the committee to works which are relevant" Ms

The appointment has been made jointly by the Speaker and the Secretary of State for the

Mr Mould's contribution, according to Mr Cormack will be "analogous to that of Sir Hugh Leggatt at the National Portrait

Unseen peril in busy streets

By Gareth Haw Davies There is new evidence that guidelines were breached in readings from all four stations,

invisible pollution from vehicle exhausts is becoming a indicating widespread pollution, the consultancy said. serious problem in London's traffic-choked streets. Greenpeace commissioned Carbon monoxide levels the consultancy to send it exceeded World Health Orgdetails of every occasion dur-

anization (WHO) guidelines in a number of episodes ing the two months when the carbon monoxide threshold covering II days between last was broken, and has published October 20 and November 25. the results. The readings were taken The highest reading, made during continuous routine

on November 15, was 19.8 at monitoring by the iodepenthe west Londoo monitoring station in a school near Heathdent consultancy London row Airport. On the same day Scientific Services at four the reading at the monitoring station in York Road next to points, two in the centre of the capital, one to east and one in County Hall was 16. west London. Ninety per cent of carbon The health organization

says the average hourly figure monoxide in urban areas comes from road vehicles. must not exceed 10mgs of carbon monoxide per cubic The two other main pollutmetre of air. In the unusually ants in vehicle exhausts are but not exceptionally calm nitrogen oxides and hydrocaranti-cyclonic weather in Octobons. Readings show a 50 per ber and November, these

1978. There has been a 25 per cent increase in the UK car population since 1985, from 16.45 million to 20.5 million, with three years of record sales from 1985 to 1987, and 1988 may be another record.

ides in London's air since

"There has not been much research about low-level exposure to carbon monoxide," Greenpeace's atmosphere campaigner, Steve Elsworth, said. "But any exposure is not particularly good for you. If you drive home in Londoo with the car windows open for an hour, by the time you reach home you may feel less than

"It is oot going to kill people, but it is the trend we are worried about. The car manufacturers are outselling the environment's capacity to absorb pollution from these

Archaeology

Car park hides Norwich's past

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

Middle Ages. Some six and a half acres in the heart of the city is being excavated before the construction of "Castle Mall", a new shopping centre, and the developers will fund the work at an estimated cost of £600,000.

The bailey, once the lower courtyard of the castle, is at present the site of a car park, and has been disturbed over the years by air-raid shelters and the construction of a cattle market In spite of that according to Mr Brian Ayers, who is directing the work, the underlying archaeological deposits are in good condition, and in places are much deeper than had been

anticipated. Four trial excavations were made earlier this year, also sponsored by Estates and General Investments, the developers. In one of them part of the rampart was found. together with the ditch outside it, but digging had to stop at a depth of seven metres (22 ft) with another three metres of estimated ditch infill remaining to be investigated when the main excavation begins. Among the finds were horse awbones smoothed on the lower side: they were used as

the runners for sledges in the sixteenth century, something proved by an illustration of such an item in one of the paintings of the Flemish artist Pieter Breughel the Elder.

A major excavation this win- tery "wasters" were found, ter will uncover the outer vessels discarded immediately bailey of Norwich Castle, ooe after firing because they were of the great royal castles of the distorted or had broken in the kiln. The pots are of late Saxon date, and suggest that the industry in Norwich was more extensive than had been thought, Mr Ayers said.
A third excavation, at the

foot of the bridge presently leading across the most to the castle, yielded substantial flint walls with Northamptonshire stone quoins at the corners, which, Mr Ayers said, "almost certainly represent part of the stone barbican gateway, a defensive work in front of the bridge. It was probably built around AD 1220, and the excavated fragment seems to be part of the east gate tower"

The walls, massive though they are, appear to have been moved, perhaps during a demolition attempt in the eighteenth century.
The excavation, which will

last until 1990, has three main objectives, Mr Ayers said: to recover evidence of the Saxon town, which seems to have grown from a constellation of villages, with "North Wic" being one of them; to study the Norman castle, and to examine the Castle Fee, an extramural area under the control of the castle.

Because the castle is known to have been built between AD 1068 and 1075, both the Norman architecture and the latest levels of the Saxon town. with 98 houses demolished to make way for the Conqueror's fortifications can be dated In another of the pits pot- with unusual precision.

Goldfinches stay north

Many goldfinches and linners gulls - the glaucous gull and leave Britain for the south of the Iceland gull - have been France and Spain during the reported at reservoirs and winter, but in this mild December there are still plenty to be seen. Male goldfinches often feed in flocks on the large, dry seed-heads of teasel; the females have shorter heaks, which restricts them to

burdock and thistle. They are restless birds and are soon off into the sky with a flash of yellow-barred wings. Linnets, which are closely related to goldfinches, have the same dancing flight and also flock constantly from field to field. They feed particularly on seeds turned

up by the plough.

gravel pits. Both are pure white gulls and even the firstyear hirds, which are the ooes most often seen in Britain, are a very pale, creamy buff in colour with white wing-tips. Glaucous gulls are powerful

birds, sometimes even larger than a greater black backed guil, iceland gulls are smaller and lighter on the wing. Gorse and white dead-nettle

are in flower. Some of next spring's leaves have already opened on the honeysuckle creepers; and the fern-like leaves of cow parsley are two or three inches high above the leaf-mould.

Mercers' Company and The ceal Trustees of St Bartholow's Hospitals. des University of Wales will be the and to the University of Wales. Mr Owen Edwards, in recognition of his special contribution to the advancement of broadcasting in Wales, Dr Gareth Owen, in recognition

partment of Radiology, versity of Virginia Medical tre, Charlottesville, Vir-Chair is privately funded by Mercers Company and The cial Trustees of St Bartholo-

to international understanding.
MD: Professor Emeritus tre, Charlottesville, Vir-ia, USA, has been appointed the Mercers' Chair in logical medicine and to the

in tre. Chartons appointed in USA has been appointed the Mercers' Chair in logical medical profession. In medical

holding a ceremony for confer-ring honorary degrees at Saint David's University College, Lampeter on July 15 1989. The persons to be honoured are:

MA: Mr Hor Edwards in account recognition of his contributions to marine biology and the administration of scientific research.

DMuse Dr George Guest, in recognition of his contributions to music and to Welsh culture. DLitt: Sir Bruce Fraser, in recognition of his distinction as a Civil Servant and of his services to Saint David's University College, Lampeter. DD: The Rev Owen E Evans, in recognition of his key role in the preparation of the New Welsh Bible.

At a subsequent ceremony it is intended to confer the degree of DLitt upon Dr Dannie Abse in recognition of his schievements as a poet and writer.

INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

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ETHEATRE ...

LONDON

☆ ARTIST DESCENDING A STARCASE: Deft, often touching stage version of Stoopard's radio play, transferred from the King's Head. Duke of York's Theatre, Sr Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-836 5122), Tube: Leicester Sq. Mon-Thurs 8-9.30pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10pm, Mats Fri and Sat 8-7.30pm, £5-£13.50.

→ BUDGIE: Adam Faith with Anita
Dobson In trinnish Soho musical.
Cambridge Theatre, Eartham St. WC2
(01-379 5299). Tube: Covert Garden.
Mon-Sat 7.45pm. mats Wed and Sat
3pm, £8-£20 except Wed mats, £4-£10.

★ CAN-CAN: Uninspired revival of Cole Porter's Paris musical. Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-838 2560). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat 3pm, £6.50-£19.50.

★ LETTICE AND LOVAGE: Geraldina McEwan and Sara Kestelman take over the leads in Peter Schaffer's smash comedy where two unlikely partners wage eccentric war against tha modern

Wide Theetre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3667), Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat, 7.45-10.15pm, mat Sat 3-5.30pm, 27.50-£15. (D) * THE RELAPSE: Roy Marsden and Kate O'Mara in British Actors Theatre

revival of Vanbrugh's ever popular romp.

Mennald Thestre, Puddle Dock, EC4
(01-236 5568). Tube: Blackfriars. MorSat 7:30-9.50pm, mats Thurs 2:304.50pm and Sat 4-6.20pm. Sat Dec 31
only, perts 5-7.20pm and 8-10.20pm.
Mon-Thurs and mats: £8.50-£12.50; Fri
and Sat eves £10-£14.50.

 ★ SCHOOL FOR CLOWNS:
Entertaining show where Bob Goody's eccentric Professor Instructs four fairly rebellious apprentices.
Lillan Baylis Theatre, Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, ECT (01-278 8915).
Tube: Angel. Mon-Sat 7-9pm, mats tomorrow, until Dec 30 and Jan 2, 3, 7, 14: 3-5pm and Jan 2/14: 14 5-12 45pm. 14: 3-5pm and Jan 7/14: 10.45-12.45pm, £5-£7. Children under 12 half price. * A TOUCH OF DANGER: So-so Francis Durbridge timiler puts William Franklyn in danger of his life. Whitehati Theatre, Whitehati, SW1 (01-867 1112) Tude: Charing Cross. Mon-Sat 8-10pm. Mats Thurs 3-5pm, Sat S-7pm, £7.50-£12.

LONG RUNNERS: ** Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Queen's Theatre (01-734 1186) ... ** Cats: New London Theatre (01-405 0072) ... ** Folies: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5399) ... ** 42nd Street: Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 8108) ... ** Les Lieisons Dangeneuses: Ambassador Theatre (01-836 6111) ... ** Me and My Girt Adeighi Theatre (01-240 7913) ... ** Las Misserables: Palace Theatre (01-434 0909) ... ** The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443) ... ** The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244) ... ** Run for your Wife: Criterion Theatre (01-857 1117) ... ** Starfight Express: Apolio Victoria (01-828 8665)

OUT OF TOWN

MANCHESTER: ☆ Arms and the Man:
Paul Herzberg plays the chocolate
soldier in Casper Wrede's revival.
Royal Exchange Theetre, Cross Street
(061 833 9833). Mon-Thurs 22.80-29.50.
Fri and Sat 8pm. Mon-Thurs 22.80-29.50.
Fri and Sat £3.30-£10.

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M Also on national release 2 Advance booking possible

AU REVOIR, LES ENFANTS (PG): Louis Malle's moving, semi-eutobiographical drama, set in a provincial boarding school in the last months of the Second World War. Gaspard Manesse heads the young, non-professional cast (107

min). Curzon Mayfair (01-499 3737). Progs 1.30, 3.45, 5.20, 8.50. BIRD (15): Clint Eastwood's impressively nounted biography of Charlie Parker with Forest Whitaker at the legendary jazz saxophonist (161

min). & Lumiere (01-836 0691). Progs 1.25, 4.35, 7.55. Cannon Futham Rd (01-370 2636). Progs 1.40, 5.15, 8.45. Screen on the HIII (01-435 3366). Progs 3.30, 7.45.

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TELEVISION TOP 10

al top 10 programmes in the week ending De

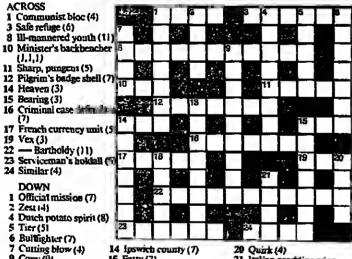
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Coronation Street (Mon) Granada 16.85m Coronation Street (Wed) Granada 16m Trida is Your Life Transes 13.15m Bulleeye Central 12.80m The Bill Tharnes 12.25m Beadle's About LWT 12.25m Blind Date LWT 12.20m The Krypton Factor Granada 12.05m Nova (Sun 20.41) TN 11.40m Boon Central 11.35m

nnel 4
Brookside (Mon/Sat) 7.20m
Brookside (Wed/Sat) 6.80m
Lost in Space 4.15m
This Golden Girt 4.15m
Fitnen-to-One (Fr) 3.85m
Fitnen-to-One (Wed) 3.75m
Fitnen-to-One (Mcn) 3.70m
Fitnen-to-One (Thurs) 3.85m
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Breaktast television: The average weekly figures for audiences at peak times (with figures in parenthesis showing the reach - the number of people who viewed for at least three minutes): kfast Time: Mon to Fri 1.3m (7.5m)TV-wa: Good Marning Britain Mon to Fri 2.4m (12.3) Source: Broadcasters' Audience Research Board

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1754



grin 73 The Treasure of the Sierra Madre

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SOME SEATS AVAIL THIS WEEK

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ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 826 3161 CC 240 8258 ENGLISH RATIONAL OPERA Thu 7.30 Christman Evs. Fri 7.30 The Millands

ROYAL FESTIVAL MALL 928 8800 (Credit cards accepted) LOKOON FESTIVAL BALLET

THE NUTCRACKER Today & 30m & 7.30, Tickets &6-817

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THEATRES

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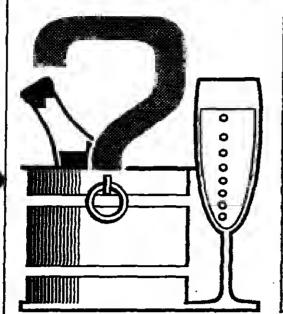
CHARADES

DAY ONE

 For a little fun over Christmas week, The Times has devised Charades, a simple game to test your knowledge of various forms of the arts. There are four questions a day - and for five winners there will be a case of Moet & Chandon Brut Imperial 1983 champagne, worth £186, delivered to the door.

• The quiz begins today and continues throughout the week, ending on Saturday, when full details of how to enter will be given. Just fill in the answers, cut them out and keep them.

 The answers to the Books, Theatre and Music questions will be names of characters. The answer to the Cinema question will be the name of a film. Today's questions are easy; but they may not remain quite so simple as the week progresses.



Her print gown was tacked up, and she was wearing a large apron over her striped petticoat. Her little black nose went spille, spille, spille.

THEATRE He met his father a little after midaight and was

asked to revenge murder most foal.

He wanted to make the punishment fit the crime and had his eve on three little pirts.

The Bond film in which Ursula Andress first emerged from the waves in a white bikini.

MOËT & CHANDON

A FISH CALLED WANDA (15): The adventures of two scheming Americans (Jamie Lee Curtis and Kevin Kline), an uptight English barrister (John Cleese) and an animal rights fanatic (Michael Palin), who owns a fish called Wanda. Script by John Cleese. Directed by Ealing veteran Charles Crichton (109 min)

man, Cunnon Oxford St (01-636 0310). Progs 1.50, 4.55, 8.05. Cunnon Shaftesbury Ave (01-836 8861/8606). Progs 1.00, 3.25, 5.55, 8.25, 28 Plaza (01-200 0200). Progs 1.30, 3.50, 6.15, 8.40. 6.15, 8.40. 6.15, 8.40. Gate Notting Hill (01-727 4043). Progs 2.05, 4.10, 6.30, 9.00. Screen on Batter St (01-835 2772). Progs 4.05, 6.40, 8.40.

E GOOD MORNING, VIETNAM (15): Robin Williams in a military comedy about a DJ sent to Vietnam to keep up subult a LJ sent to Vietnam to keep up the morale of the troops. Directed by Barry Levinson (121 min). Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 2.00, 5.05, 8.10. a Warner West End (01-439 0791). Progs 12.46, 3.20, 5.55, 8.30.

HIGH SPIRITS (15): Spirited Supernatural consense of the Medianal Control of the Jordan, with Peter O'Toole as the decrepit owner of an Irish castle advertised as haunted (92 min).

Odeon West End (01-930 5252), Progs 1.15, 3.35, 6.20, 8.55.

Like FATHER, LIKE SON: Dudley Moore stars in a yet another "kid in a man's body" film with Kirk Cameron as the son (190 mkn).
Odeon literatie Arch (07-723 2011).
Props 1.10, 3.30, 6.05.
Cannon Chelses (01-352 5096). Progs 1.35, 4.30, 7.15, 9.40.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310).
Prons 1.10, 3.35, 6.00. Progs 1.10, 3.35, 6.00.

Camon Panton Street (01-930 0631). Progs 2.15, 4.50, 7.25. Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905). Progs 1.00, 3.20, 6.00.



Michael Jackson (above) makes his eccentric big screen debut in Moonwalker (see listing), a feature-length pot-pourri of concert performance clips, dances, chases, fantasy sequences and special effects, tenuously linked by an ageold plot line - the struggle between good and evil. Jackson, of course, represents good; evil is personified by an extra-terrestrial drug pusher. Also featuring Sean Lennon, son of John, and directed, in pop video style, by Jerry Kramer and Colin Chilvers.

MIDNIGHT RUN (15): Engaging comedy-thritier, with Robert de Niro as a bounty hunter given the job of taking a sensitive ball-jumping accountant cross-country. With Charles Groden; directed by Martin Brest (126 min). Empire Laicester Square (01-200 0200). Progs 1.30, 4.05, 6.45, 9.20.

MOONWALKER (PG): See caption, Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Progs 1.25, 3.45, 6.10, 8.35. Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 1.25, 3.45, 6.10, 8.35. Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 881). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 6.05, 8.35. at Warner West End (01-439 0791). Progs 12.40, 2.45, 4.45, 6.50, 8.55.

SCROOGED (PG): Seasonal comedy featuring Bill Murray as the TV executive determined to explor Christmas to the full. Directed by Fixchard Donner (10)

mm). Cannon Baker St (01-935 9772). Progs 2-30, 5-30, 8-15. Cannon Fulliam Rd (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 9.00, Cannon Oxford St (01-636 0310). Progs 1.05, 3.30, 5.55, 8.25.

WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT (PG): Energetic moture of cartoons and real file. Ace animation director Richard Williams supplies a frantic array of "toon" characters, headed by Roger Rabbit, Boh Hoskins plays the dishevelled gumshoe, Eddle Valiant (104

Odeon Leicester Sq (01-930 6111). Progs 10.15, 12.45, 3.30, 6.10, 8.50, 11.45. Odeon High St Kensington (01-602 6644). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 8.00, 8.30. Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905).

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box officer closed today.

NOW BOOKING TO APRIL.

Progs 1.30, 3.45, 6.00, 8.45. Cannon Chelses (01-352 5095), Progs 1.40, 4.40, 7.10, 9.30. Screen on the Green (01-226 3520), Progs 2.25, 4.30, 7.00, 8.55.

WILLOW (PG): Costly medieval fantasy from George Lucas, about an evil queen's reign of terror and an earnest midget's mission to save the Infant princess. Directed by Ron Howard: with Vel Klimer, Joanne Whalley, Warwick Davis (126 min).

3. Empire (01-437 1234). Progs 12.30, 3.10, 6.00, 8.40.
Cannon Baker St (01-835 9772). Progs 2.20, 5.10, 8.05.
Cannon Fulhern Rd (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 8.05. WILLOW (PG): Costiv medieval fantasy

CONCERTS

DANCE

☆ THE NUTCRACKER: Two performances today of Pater Scharfuss's production for London Easther Italier Festival Ballet.
Royal Festival Half, South Bank,
London SE1 (01-928 8800), 3-5.15pm
and 7.30-9.45pm. 25-217, half price for
children with adults.

OPERA

* RIGOLETTO: Meticulous steging by Nuria Espert and a thrilling Gilda from June Anderson are the strong points of the Royal Opera's new Verdi production. production. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1068), 7.30-10.30pm, £2.50-£75.

JAZZ

* MAGNETO: Chris Standering's quintet includes rising young saxophonist Mornington Locket and Sue Shattock keyboard player Terry

Distry. Bull's Head, 373 Lonsdale Roed, London SW13 (01-876 5241) 8.30pm, £3.50.

ROCK

☆ EDWIN STARR: The original "War" man, still blessed with a ratter-ratting Vunce. Billiam Fliddler, 24/26/28 Harlesden High Street, London NW10 (01-961 \$490) 8pm, 26.

A OTIS GRAND AND THE DANCE KINGS: Authentic big band R'n'B from the expatriate American guitarist and singer Earl Green. Pled Bull, 1 Liverpoot Road, London N1 (01-837 3218) 7.30pm, £5.

A SUMMERHILL: Highly rated, if rather precious, India art-roots group. Cricketers, Kennington Oval, London SET1 (01-735 3059) 8pm, E3.

GALLERIES

TOULOUSE-LAUTREC (1864-1901): An TOULOUSE-LAUTRIEC (1864-1901): At almost complete survey of the French draughtsman's prints and posters depicting aspects of Paristen cate life during the 1890s.

Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (01-439 7438), daily 10em-5pm, £3, until Feb 5.

OTHER EVENTS

COTTLE AND AUSTEN'S CIRCUS: COTILE AND AUSTER S CIRCOS: Traditional circus with clowns, acrobats, jugglers, rodeo and animals. Battersee Perk, Chelsee Bridge Entrance, Batterses, London, SWI 1. Today 2pm and 5pm, other performances daily until Jan 8. Tickets: Adults 26-E10, child 23-E5, from Box Office at Chelsea Bridge Gate, or (01-924 1111).

SOUTH PACIFIC

MEST MURICAL 1988 Drawn
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THENCE OF WALES 879 5969
CEMBEA
CRAYEN WEEKS TO SEE
COLY 2 WEEKS T

MUMMERS PLAYS: Mummers have been abroad at Christmas time since the Middle Ages. The dast few years have Maddle Ages. The dast rew years rated seen a result of the custom in many parts of the country — the plays often accompanied by morris dancing. Among them, two to be seen taday are in Moulton, Northampton at 11am and the Camedral Presents, Gloucester, at noon, Free.

MUSEUM HOLIDAY OPENING: The Open Air Museum at Singleton with all it's historic buildings, pairk and some rare simmal breeds is open for the next

week. Wasid and Downland Open Air Museum, Singleton, near Chichester, Wast Sussex (024 363 748). Today und Jan 2, 11am-4pm. Adult £2 30 child £1.10.

BOXING DAY BAND: Traditional silver band concert by the sea.
The Bandstand, Eastbourne, Sussex. 11am-12.30pm.

WINTER SALES

TODAY BLACKPOOL: LEWIS'S, 50 The Promenade (0253 25272) Today for a month:

NEXT, 54-56 Kensington High Street, W8 (01-938 4211) and branches Women's fashion now on until Jan 28; menswear and langure from 100ky HABITAT, 196 Tottenham Court Hoad. Now until Jan 28; until Jan 29 at out-of-town and Scotash branches

NECT DEPARTMENT STORE, 54-60 Kensington High Street, W6 (01-938 4211) and branches Today to Jan 28 REJECT SHOP, 209 Tottenham Court Road, W1 (01-580 2695); 234 King's Road, SW3 (01-352 0307); 245-249 Brompton Road, SW3 (01-584 7811);

and branches.

Today for London shops (except Pleze Oxford Street); tomorrow for other branches to Feb 3

KONGDOM OF LEATHER, Unit 3, Gallions Road, Charlton, SE7 (01-305 0101); Western Avenus, West Thurrock, Essex (01-0708 864152) Today-Jan 31

CURRY'S, from today at out-of-town superstones and from tomorrow at ell other shops. BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

FEBRUARY AT THE SOUTH BANK: Booking for Michael Nyman Band and London Contemporary Dance Theatre in Slobhan Dawas work; string quarters by Brodsky String Quartet; and concerts in following series; Shostakovich, Sounds in Time, Contemporary Music, and National Trust lectures. Also music of Louis Armstrong and Fats Walter. South Bank Concert Natis, London SE1. (01-928 8800). Advance booking open. General booking from Jan 3/4. FEBRUARY AT THE SOUTH BANK: General booking from Jan 3/4.

ANTOLGIA DE LA ZARZUELA: First major British season by Spanish company, with 100 singers, musicians, dancers and costumes, in celebration of Spanish culture originating from Spanish royal court of 1857. Mar 7-18. Sedler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1. (01-278 8916).

LAST CHANCE

ROLAND BRENER/MICHEL GOULET: Sculptures from the Canadian Pavison at the 1988 Venice Bennial, with an tion by each artist. Ends this week. Canada House, Trafaigar Square, London SW1. (01-629 9492).

Theatre: Jeremy Kingston; Films: Geoff Brown; Concerns: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock: David Sinclair; Jazz Clive Davis; Dance: John Pertival; Galleries: David Lee; Other Events: Judy Froshaug; Winter sales: Nicole Swengley; Bonkings: Anne Whitehouse.

ART GALLERIES

CINEMAS

Official Phoenix 8. Official Phoenix 8. Official Phoenix 8. Official Phoenix 8. Official Phoenix 9. Offici

CURZON WEST END Sturfesbury Avenus W1 439 4806, PERCY ADLON'S RASDAD CAPE (Fill, Film at 2.00 unot Sun 4.10 2.0 8.45. "Wonderfully endearing" This. "The officeal full of the Syest" Time Out

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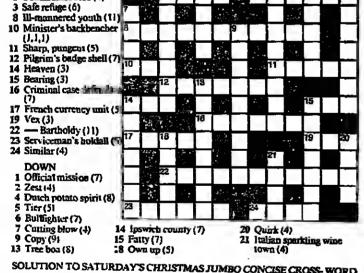
SHERLOCK HOLMES "The heat Holman and Welson? Save ever seen" Sunday Engress "Sath performance are of a high heilburg" Times Life Statistical Directed by Petrick Oarland Mon-Fri ROO. 63m. 8.30 & 8.30 Mats Wed 3.00

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SOLUTION TO SATURDAY'S CHRISTMAS JUMBO CONCISE CROSS- WORD

ACROSS: 1 We all live io a yellow submarine 15 Decalitre 16 Uncivil 17 Air jacket 18 Itemising 19 Epoulette 28 Araroba 21 Owing 22 Sensually 24 Capacitance 25 Bantlerry 27 Sansfied 31 Apsides 33 Fairweather 37 Rumously 38 Siyer 39 Impartial 40 Turin 41 Flaccidity 44 5tirrup cup 46 Wench 48 Reimburse 50 Evens 51 Grubscrew 52 Partnership 53 Risks it 55 Transient 56 Assists io 59 Belly dancer 63 Balactava 65 Polin 66 Hygiene 67 Castigate 69 Aiert ship 70 Avalanche 71 Animist 72 Broad grin 73 The Treasure of the Sierra Madre

WINNING MOVE By Raymond Keene.



The above position is taken from the game between Keen (White) against Kovacevic (Black), played in Amsterdam 1973. White plays and wins. The winning move will be given in tomorrow's

victoria) ASO 6677 BOLAND PAT in BARKS BY THE WIGOS RAT in BARKS BY THE WIGOS Starting Surbarn Windsor. Nitroiss Persona, Julie Hopers until Jan 21st.

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A WALK IN THE WOODS

by LEE BLESSING
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ANTTA

WORD-WATCHING Answers from page 16 EPYLLION

(c) A poem with some resemblances to an epic, but abortes, from the diminutive of the Greek agos a word: "Epyllion, a literary type popular from Theocrius to Ovid, was a nametic peem of about 100 to 600 hexameters; the subject was usually the subject was usually taken from the life of a saythical hero or heroine, the love motif being prominent in later cyrilia."

CAPELLET (b) A wealing on a house's elbow, or on the back part of its hock, from the Low Latin capa, capelle a

CEP. BUDDHI (a) The Sanckrit word for direct intuitive knowledge, as when you awaken from a dream, as Buddha did from the dream he called known as maps. STANDISH as he called life, also STANDISH

(a) An indistand, community but impersuasively believed to come from stand + dish; Dickens: "He wanted pen, ink, and paper, There was an old standish on the high mustel shelf containing a dusty apology for all three."

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et.ore Theather of 437 3667/ 741 9999. Print Call 836 3404 (bits fee) Groups 930 6123 Evgs 7-46, Sat Mat 3om GERALDINE MCEWAN SARA NESTELMAN

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A STATE OF THE STA

- O. / (m)

7.00 Now It's Christmas starting with The Muppet Bables (f). 7.20 Champion the Wonder Horse (b/w) in Salted Ground (f). 7.45 Film: Dot and the Kangaroo (1977). An animated film shout a strategy of the first the Australian

(1977). An animated film shout a young girl lost in the Australian bush. At nightfall she is befriended by an amiable kangaroo

9.00 Playbus 9.25 Bugs Bunny'a
Loonie Christmas Tale (r). 9.55
Smash Hit Poll Winners' Party presented by Philiip Schofield from London's Royal Albert Hsit (r). 10.55 Five to Eleven. Frank Thornton with a reading

11.00 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time.
Alas St Nick, Hay Rube; and The Pup's Christmas

11.25 Film: The Black Stallion
Returns (1983) starring Kelly Reno, Teri Garr and Vincent Spano. The story of a young man's efforts to trace a kidnapped racehorse. Directed by Robert Dalva. (Ceefax)

1.05 News with Laurie Mayer.

1.10 The World's Strongest Man.

Waather

1.10 The World's Strongest Man.
The contest for the Daf Trucks
Trophy introduced by Chris
Serie from Budapest and Tihany,

Serie from Budapest and Tihany, Hungary
2.10 Film: Escape to Athena (1979) starring Roger Moore, Telly Savalas and David Niven.
Second World War drama about a group of Alijed soldiers planning to escape from a prisoner-of-war camp on a German-occupied Greek island. With Claudia Cardinale, Stefanle Powers, Richard Roundtree, Elliott Gould and Anthony Valentine. Directed by

Anthony Valentine. Directed by George P. Cosmatos. (Ceefax)

4.05 Disney Time introduced by David Essex. Including clips from Snow White, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Fantasia and 101 Dalmatians

4.50 Final Score. Sports results presented by Harry Gration

presented by Harry Gration 5.05 News with Laurie Mayer. Weather. 5.15 Out of the Inkwell

(Ceefax) Showreel 88. The first of a new series of work by amateur film and

video makers.

4.00 The Shape of the Nation. A
guil's eye view of Britain's
coastline starting at Land's
End travelling anti-clockwise,
accompanied by the music of

Britain. The narrator for the English leg of the journey is John Westbrook; for Scotland, Sally Magnusson; and Wales, Clay Jones. (Ceafax)

BBC1 5.20 Jim'lt Fix it. Among those for whom Janmy Savile makes
dreams come true are a 13year-old who accompanies Kirl Te
Kanawa on the harp; and a 14year-old who has lunch with her pop idol Glenn Medeiros at his nome on an Hawaiian island.

(Ceefax)
G.30 A Question of Sport presented
by David Coleman, in this
seasonal edition Bill Beaumont and len Botham are joined by Bernard Manning, Tim Rice, Frank Carson and Gilly Coman.

(Ceefax)
6.30 The Paul Daniels Magic
Christmas Show. The guests are
balancing act, the Alexis
Brothers, and the Puppetaers Company, (Ceefax)
7.20 ChwyStreet. An EastEnders
special with the Albert Square
gang transported back to the
Christmas of 1942 and the

constants of 1942 and the deprivations associated with wartime. (Ceefax)

8.20 Film: Beverly Hills Cop (1984) starring Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinhold, Lisa Filbacher and Steven Berkoff. Comedy drama about an unorthodox Detroit collegators whose off beat policeman whose off-beat methods are not appreciated when he travels to California on the trail of the killer of his

friend. Directed by Martin Brest. (Ceefax)

10.05 The Lenny Henry Special, Comedy sketches and music, the latter supplied by Mica Parls. (Ceefax) 10.45 News with Laurie Mayer.

Regional news and weather

10.55 Bruce and Romile in the

Corbett and Forsyth Show. With

quest Flone Fullerton

11.40 Film: Fiddler on the Roof

Film: Fiddler on the Roof (1971) starring Topol, Norma Crane, Leonard Frey and Pauf Michael Glaser. The musical story of a poor milkman who is determined to find rich husbands for his five daughters. Directed by Norman Jawison. (Ceefax)

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-em begins with Boxing Day
Sport presented by Geoff Claric;
7-30 Wideawake Special
9.25 The Sooty Christmas Show
with Matthew Corbett, Roger
Walker and Suzy Aitchison
9.50 Film: Mickey's Christmas
Carol (1983). Cartoon version of
Charles Dickens's novel.
Directed by Burny Mattinson
10.20 Film: Dayy Crockett and the

10.20 Film: Davy Crockett and the River Pilots (1956) starring Fess Parker and Buddy Ebsen. The 'King of the Wild Fronter'

persuades a former rival to help him tackle a gang of river pirates. Directed by Norman Foster 12.00 What's My Line? Christmes Special presented by Angela

Rippon. 12.30 News with Fiona Armstrong
12.35 Film: The Sea Walves (1980)
starring Gregory Peck and Roger
Moore. Second World War
drama about a group of Alfied

drama about a group of Alised veterans who are brought out of retirement to perform what will be an unactnowledged mission to destroy an anemy spy ship. Directed by Andrew V. McLaglen

2.40 Wish You Were Here...?
Judith Chalmers takes an energetic holiday in Alberta, goes on an African bird-watching safari and tests the claims of the Yorkshire Tourist Board: Anneka Rice Joins a gourmet cookery course; and John Carter reports from a country "somewhere in Europe", takes a television studio tour, and travels down the Mississippi by paddle-steamer. (Oracle)

2.40 Film: Octopussy (1983) starring Roger Moore, Maud James and Louis Jourdan.
James Bond is summond by "M" when OOS in fever murchard in

James Bond is summond by "M" when 009 is found murdered in East Germany clutching what looks like a Fabergé egg. Directed by John Glan. Continues at 5.15. 5.00 News and sports results 5.15 Film: Octopussy continued

6.15 Strike It Lucky. Game show 7.00 The Krypton Factor Grand Final. (Oracle) 7.30 Coronation Street. Audray is hard pressed to keep Atf 6 emberrassing secret quiet (Oracle)

(Cracle) Minder. This 90-minute special Minder. This 90-minute special finds Arthur In the big time — he has his own warehouse, is doing a good international trade in counterfeit goods and has a big order from a war games enthusiast. Terry meanwhile gets a new job; and Chisholm, now in security, is

now in security, is accompanying a consignment of gold. (Oracle)

9.30 After Henry. Comedy starring Prunella Scales as a widow trying to cope with an intrusive mother and a recalcitrant daughter 10.00 News with Flona Armstrong 10.15 Film: Biselsout (1985) starring Fitchard Widmark and Keith Carradine. Thriller about an expositeman obsessed with tracking down the person responsible for an unsolved murder. Directed by Douglas Hickox

12.00 Barcelona — a Musical Extravegense. A concert including duets by Montserrat Caballe and Freddle Mercury; and Jose Carreras with Dionne Warwick; dence from Rudolf Nureyev; and rock and roll by Jerry Lee Lewis

1.00 Film: "107 (1979) eterriors

rock and roll by Jerry Lee
Lewis
1.00am Film: "10" (1979) starting
Duckey Moore, Julie Andrews and
Bo Derek. Comedy about a
man, upset about the advent of
middle-age and a negging
girlfriend, who becomes
fascinated by a newly-wed
woman. Directed by Blake
Edwards
3.15 WRRP in Cincinnati. Comedy
3.45 Film: Whistling in Dixtle (1942,
b/w) starring Red Skelton.
Comedy about the hero of a
racio detective series who wants a
two-week break in order to get
married. Directed by S. Sylvan
Simon

Simon 5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends 6.00.

6.00 Faerie Tale Theatre:
Rapunzel, starring Shelley Duvall
and Jeff Bridges. (Oracle)
7.00 News summary and weather
followed by Caught in the Act.
(see Choice)
8.00 Cheers. Sam has a special gift
for Rebecca. (Oracle)
8.30 Brookside. Paul confronts
Brian and Anna about their affair

9.00 Parents Paul confronts
Brian and Anna about their affair
9.00 Pain: Ginger and Fred (1985)
starring Marcello Mastrolanni and
Giulietta Massina. Satirical
comedy on italy's deregulated
television industry focusing on
a reunion of a retired cabaret

couple who used to impersonate Fred Astaire and

impersonate Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. Directed by Federico Fellini

11.25 Le Tango Stupefiant. French opera star Helene Delavault performs turn-of-the-century cabaret songs

12.15am Film: The Return of Frank James (1940, b/w) starring Hensy Fonda. The reformed outlaw is making a living as a farmer when he hears that his brother's killer has been pardoned. Directed by Fritz Lang. Ends at 2.10.

9.00 Ceefax
11.00 Film: Fort Apache (1948. b/w)
starring John Wayne and Henry
Fonda. Western drama about
an ambittered US Cavalry colonel
who is posted to a remote fort
in the Arizona desert. Directed by
John Ford. (Ceefax)
1.05 Film: The Ladykillers (1955,
b/w) starring Alec Gultmess.
Comedy about a group of
crooks masquerading as 6.00 Film: The Maltese Falcon
(1941, b/w) starring Humphrey
Bogart, Mary Astor, Peter
Lorre and Sydney Greenstreet.
Classic thrifer about a private
detective trying to trace a
priceless black statuette. priceless black statuette. Directed by John Huston

7.40 Paradise. An award-winning animated film 7.55 Film: Otello (1986) starring Placido Domingo. Franco Zeffirelli's version of Verdi'a crooks masquerading as musicians who plot their next escapade in the lodgings of one of their number. Directed by Alexander Mackendrick 9.55 News From Pleasuntville: The Story of Reader's Digest, (see

Story of Reader's Digest. (see Choice)

10.45 Film: Local Hero (1983)
starring Burt Lancaster and Peter Riegert. An executive of an American oil company has the task of sweet-talking the villagers of a remote area in Scotland where they want to build a new refinery. Directed by Bill Forsyth. (Ceefax)

12.35am Fibr: Don't Look Back: (1967. b/w). A documentary

(1967, b/w). A documentary following Sob Dylan's concert tour of Britain in 1965. Directed by D. A. Pennebaker. Ends 2.10.

CHANNEL 4

9.30 Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series. The guest is Victor Borge 10,30 Race Against the Wind. This first of a repeated series of Assignment Adventure documentaries follows the fortunes of six young people as they sall from Prince Rupert in Alaska to Vancouver 11.30 Street Hockey. Tha first of a new series on the fast-growing sport

12.00 Stone Monkey. A portrait of rock climber Johnny Dawes (r).

12.30 Channel 4 Racing from Kempton Park. Brough Scott introduces coverage of the 12.45, 1.15, 1.45, 2.20 (King George VI Rank Chase) and 2.50 races

3.15 Anne of Green Gables starring Megan Follows. The story of a

Megan Follows. The story of a young orphan who goes to live with a Canadlan farmer and his spinster sister at the turn-of-

the-century (r).

5.05 Cricket — The Women's World
Cup Final. Highlights of the game
in Melbourne between
Australia and England

Turkeys and trimmings

TELEVISION REVIEW

In the future, when we have so many television options that each member of a family watches their own choice in their own room, we may well hark back to this era as a golden age when families watched television together at Christmas. The spectacle of three generations slumped in front of one screen is what our schedulers had in mind when they provided Santa Claus: The Movie (BBCI, Christmas Eve) and The Empire Strikes Back (ITV, Christmas Day); the same consideration no doubt led Channel 4 to relegate Yanks to the midnight hour lest any mention of war, sex or racism, no matter how tastefully couched or nostalgically art-directed, should intrude on the thinking family's festivities.

These attractions, and many more of the films on offer over the holiday, have already come to our friendly neighbourhood video shops. My household already owns Back to the Future, Beverly Hills Cop, Mary Poppins, Some Like it Hot and Casablanca. The prospect of seeing one of these films again is unlikely to start a stampede. Will next Christmas, when satellite channels have multiplied our options, merely bring us more of the same?

Original television is as thin on the ground as snow at this time of year. Arena (BBC2, Friday) ought to have scored a seasonal coup with its biography of Nat King Cole, but instead gave us another vision of how our television may deteriorate. This was an American co-production in which the BBC's normal standards had been diluted to produce a product palatable to the American audience. The result was the story of a short, stressful life which left a legacy of glorious recordings; archive film was generously used, Cole's position as a black entertainer in the white mass market of the Forties and Fifties was discussed at length. None of this, nor the participation of the singer's widow, nor the revoltingly unctuous commentary, nor the procession of great and good fellow artists acknowledging his gifts, gave a true sense of the man. His film image smiled shyly for 90 minutes and gave arrays acknowledging the state of the man. minutes and gave away nothing.



Spirit of Christmas: Rowan Atkinson

The arts were more satisfyingly represented by the National Youth Theatre's opera, The Ragged Child (BBC2, Christmas Eve), and the Dance Theatre of Harlem's Creole Giselle, both stunning productions which breathed life

Another festive tradition is the "special", a familiar series with a sprig of holly on top. ITV seemed to have very little to show besides these tawdry offerings, none of interest apart from Blind Date, which saucily followed the Queen's Speech. The BBC compensated with particularly fine editions of Bread and Last of the Summer Wine. Russ Abbott was invited to fil) the gap which still remains after the loss of Morecambe and Wise, and did so superbly. Best of all was Blackadder's Christmas Coiol (BBC1, Friday), in which Robbie Columne as an all-purpose ghost revealed to Rowan Atkinson the folly of his kind-hearted ways. This was as much pricking as our consciences were to get, apart from BBC2's tedious marathon of the Nelson Mandela birthday concert on Christmas Day and a late-night screening of the Human Rights Concert in Argentina on Channel 4.

Celia Brayfield

TELEVISION CHOICE

 Ostensibly a documentary about Kenneth Branagh and the Renaissance Theatre Company he founded with David Parlitt, Caught in the Act (Channel 4, 7.00pm) veers off interestingly into a wider consideration of actor-managers and actor-directors. Branagh has become a bit of both, learning how to grapple with VAT forms and directing a sparkling production of Tweffth Night, which Channel 4 is showing on Friday. Branagh mentions Sir Donald Wolfit at one stage but only to

point out the contrast between a company dominated by one man and the Renaissance exercise in theatrical democracy. There is also an implicit criticism of big ensembles like the RSC and the National, where the actors have little say in the productions but tend to wrong. In Renaissance everyone has a say, and everyone takes the flak. Apart from promoting actor involvement. one of the main Branagh-Parfitt initiatives has been choosing actors - Judi Dench, Geraldine McEwan and Derek Jacobi - to direct. All three are shown at work; all three

say they have learned from the

experience. For their part, the

Renaissance actors say they

can respect people who have

been through it themselves.

But Terry Hands of the RSC is

sceptical, maintaining that the

Renaissance man: actormanager Kenneth Branagh

best collaboration is between "pure" directors and "pure" actors. Perhaps, as head of what is often seen as a directors' company, he would say that. Mary Gwatkin has made an enjoyable and enlightening film which has the merit of letting the subject emerge by itself, unmediated by anchor man or commentary. There have been few better arts documentaries this

• It is easy to mock the Reader's Digest as the sort of publication that would condense War and Peace into three pages and pass it off as literature but News From. Pleasantville (BBC2, 9.55pm) pays the compliment of taking seriously the world's most read magazine with 100 million readers in 197 countries. in a stately home.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

 Having got it into their heads that Boxing Day and Ben Travers are one and the same (and who am I to question this?), the planners of Radio 4's holiday fare have come up with The Dippers (7.20pm). First a novel, then a stage play and now a radio play adapted from the novel by Peter King, it packs in every characteristic element of Travers farce except the falling trousers. In a daft plot, great fun is had with venerable. lechers, mistaken identity and compromising assignations in bedrooms. If it all gets out of hand now and again, just bear in mind that this is Boxing Day, and the hysteria will be easier to take.

There are three big names over the title - Judi Dench, Michael Williams and Freddie Jones - which means that the BBC drama department has said: "Let's pull out all the stops, and to the devil with the expense." Dame Judi and Mr Jones do what is expected of them, but the real surprise and the greatest delight - is Michael Williams. Always adept at producing the quivering tones that suggest the private hell of diffident men, Mr Williams reaches new beights of jelly-wobbling desperation as the mild-mannered solicitor posing as an eccentric jazz dancer at a party

Peter Davalle

Roger Moore stars as the secret agent, James Bond, in Octopussy, an adventure set partly in India (ITV, 3.40pm)

Radio 1

5 Concert featuring INXS 8.30 John Peel 10.30-2.00am Andy Peebles Soul Train.

Radio 2

VHF Stereo and NW (medium

um Adrian John 8.00

Philip Schofield 10.00 Smon Bates, incl 12.30 Newsbeat 2.00 Steve Wright 4.55 Newsbeat

5.00 UK Top 40 with Mark Goodler 7.00 The Beeb's Lost Seatles Tapes 7.30 Radio 1's

ANGLIA As London succept 3.15 mm - 3.45 Quiz Night: Ploes King's league quiz BORDER As London except 2, 15em-3,45 Three's Company: The trio find themselves in a Christmes diemma. CENTRAL As London

Three's Company John Fitter and Joyce De Wist. CHANNEL As London GRAMPIAN AS LONGO

3.45 Three's Company: Three's GRANADA As London Three's Company, Three's Christ-

HTV WEST As London except 3.11
Ben Sidrar: On the Live Side. HTV WALES AS HTV Week

SCOTTISH As London
Three's Company, Three's Christmus. The Tric find themselves with t
party invitations.

VARIATIONS TSW As London Company, Three's Christmas. TVS As London except 3.15 am-

TYNE TEES As London 3.45 Three's Company: Three's

ULSTER As London Three's Cor YORKSHIRE As London 3.45 Three's Company. Three's Christmas, Which invinition should the tric

S4C Starte: 8-30ara Sesame Street 10-30 Film: Show People. Silent satirical comedy starting Mar-ion Devies. 12.05pm Pobol y Cwm. 12.30 Racing from Kempton Park 12.45 Haven Novices' Hurdie 1.15 Buttins Fatthern Novices' Chase 1.45 Buttars Featuren (NOVCSS Crass 1745 Royal Garden Hotel H Teap Hurde 2,20 King George VI Rank Chase 2,50 Bel Air Wayward Lad Novices' Chase 3,15 Film: Kid Millions (p)v and colour). Story of an Eastside kid who Inherits a for-tune, starring Eddic Arabra and Ethel Merman 6,00 Jac A'r Jerenlym: Paraomain 6.35 Newyddion 6.40
Parti Todig 7.40 Filinn Stormydd Awst goth Ender Emlyr a WS Jorna 8.25 G wyl Cymru 1968 10.25 Jean-Michel Jame Destination Doctands 11.25 Acoustic 12.25am Film: The Return of Frank Jemes (Henry Fonde) 2.10 Closadown RTE 1 Starte:9.20em Firm: Ter-zan and his Mate(b/w) (Jo Weissmulier and Maureen O'Sullivan)

Weissmaller and Maureon Cristiavan)
10.45 Finn Ring of Bright Water (Bill Travers, Virginia McKenna) 12.30 pm
Barbar & Father Christmas 12.35 Finn:
North-West Moured Police (Gery
Cooper) 2.55 Alice in Wonderland 4.40
Siamse Tire 5.45 News 4.06 The Anpetus 4.07 No 16.30 __And Finally
France 7.30 Film: The Never-ending
Story 8.18 News 9.30 She's Got Int
10.30 Film: Prizz's Honour. Tale of a
Matha family (Jack Nichotson, Kathleen
Turner) 12.45 em Late News 12.80
Cooedown.

Cicedown.

NETWORK 2 Starts:
5.10mm Derripsey's Derr. Bosco 9.25 A Very Brady
Cirifetruss 11.00 The Pop Shop 1.40pmi
Racing from Leopardstown 3.25 The
Small One 3.50 The Arabians 4.10 Filor.
The Karsta Kid 6.25 Home and Away
6.55 Nuscht 7.00 Cursai - La Le Stiofsin
7.30 Corporation Street 8.00 The
Carporation Street 8.00 The
Carporation: Yeakerdsy Once More 9.00 Carpenners: Yesterday Once More 9.00
Favrity Towers 9.30 Shades of the
Jeby Viloman 10.45 Barry Dougles
2.05aap Closerters

2.47 The Blind Misleading the Blind: In the first of two autobiographical talks, Peter Write recalls some of

TODAY

Special Boxing Day

Gold Island Fox Half Coat! Shawl Collar

goes on a journey of AfroBritain. His first stop is a poetry event at Y as a Asamswa Aris Centre (r)

5.00 News

5.05 Entertaining Mr Gosling: Ray Gosling discovers how Blackpool folk spend the winter (r) 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.15 Loose Gags, Songs and Stetches (or a Night at the Old Gaff): Saity comedy talking the story of the Clements Brothers and their 1902-1932 shows at Sleagness. Featuring Tim Brooks-Taylor, Paulis Wilcox and Julia Hills (s).

7.90 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 Comedy at Christmas: The Dippers (s) (see Choice)

8.50 Literary Walter, Alan Saittoe takes Christopher Somerville to areas of Nottinghamshire that have formed the hardmornal to

Notifinghamshine that have formed the background to some of his novels (r)

9.20 Cinderalia: Nigel Hawthorne tells the first of five stories with music, featuring the BBC Concert Orchestra under Barry Wordsworth (s) Kaleidoscope: Paul Allen

investigates the new breed of people setting up publishing businesses (r)

10.15 A Book at Bedtime: Tess of the d'Urbervilles by Thomas Marriv IR of 20) Hardy (6 of 20) 10.35 Fine Arts Brass Christmas

Special: Selection of seasonal music (s)
11-10 Down the River: Cliff Morgan follows the course of the River Test in Hampshire (s) (f) 12.00 News, incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast Wife as I.W except: 1.25-2.00est Ittmeline Compared with Earl Oction

(was £3495) *2995 h Natural Silver Fully Strauded Fox Full-Length Demi-Buff. Female Mink Vertical Coat with wing collar and Coal. borizontal sleeve. (was £5995) (was £6995) *1495 ***** Natural Blue Fox Natural Female Fully Strauded Ranch Mink Jacket Full-Length Coat. Round tuxedo/

Double cuffs (was £2995)

(was £1895)

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HONG KONG

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VHF Siereo 4.00am Bill Rennells 7.00 Chris Stuart 9.05 km Bruce 11.05 Michael Aspel's Solid Gold Show 1.05 Christmas Jettings of Hinge and Brackett 2.00 Adrian Love 4.00 Brian Matthew 6.00 Frank Sinatra in Concert 7.00 Alan Dell with Dance Band Days and at 7.30 Big Band Era 8.30 Big Band Special 9.00 Humphrey Lyterton with the Best of Jazz on Record 19.00 The Law Game 10.30 Double Bill 11.00 Joe Brown's Knees-Up 1.00 Alex Lester with Nichtrida 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music MW (medium wave) as above except: 2.00-6.00pm Boxing Day Sport on 2 featuring football. rugby league, cricket and racing from Kempton (2.20 King George VI Rank Steeplechase) Raview of the Year 5.00 Sports Report 5.30 Brain of Sport

WORLD SERVICE

As prince in GMT.

7 00 News 7.09 24 Hours 7.30 Monarchs
6.00 News 8.09 Words of Frith 8.15 Fire
Whitens Science 8.30 Anything Goes 9.00
News 9.09 Christmas Reading 9.15 A Host
of Angols 9.45 Andy Korshev's Words of
Musc 10.00 News Summary 18.01 With
Good Reason 10.30 The Vintege Charl
show 11.00 News 11.09 News about
Britain 11.15 Health Matters 11.30
Conders Mich 12.00 Newsreel 12.15
Conders Mich 12.00 Newsreel 12.15
Charles 10.9 24 Hours 1.30 Monarch 2.00
Catholic Geomatic with News 245 My
Famillating 3.00 News 2.09 News about
Nation 4.15 Sportsword 5.00 News about Franklather 3.00 News 409 News about 5.15 Next world 4.00 News 4.09 News about 5.41 News 4.09 News 5.00 News 4.09 News 5.00 Ne

6.55 Weather, followed by News Headlines 7.00 Christmas Oratorio: J S Christmas Oratorio: J S Bach's Und es waren Hirten in derselben Gegend: English Baroque Soloists and Monteverdi Choir under Gardiner with Ruth Holton (soprano), Nancy Argenta (soprano), Anne Sofie von Otter (mezzo-soprano), Anthony Rolfe-Johnson (tenor), Hans-Peter Blockwitz (tenor), and Otaf Bar (bartione)

7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert: Ravel
(Valses nobles et
sentimentales; Suisse
Romande Orchestra under
Ansermet); Canteloube
(Ballero; Oi Ayai; and La
Delaissado; RPO under

under Martinon with Marie-Claire Alain, organ)

8.30 Giorious John: Celebration of the conductor and callist, Sir John Barbiroll with the Halle Orchestra, New Philharmonia Orchastra, Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, Evelyn Barbirotti (obce), Janet Baker (mezzo-soprano), Jacqueline du Pre (cello) and Ruth Fermoy (piano). Brahms's Academic estival Overture: Gounod's

Festival Overture: Goundo Little Symphony for wind; Pergolesi's Concerto for oboe and strings (arr Earburoth); Saint-Saens's The Swan: Sibeflus's The Swan of Tuonela; Ravel'a Sheherazade; Berlioz' Overture Roman Camival; Elgar's Cello Concerto in E minor; Mattler's Symphony

1.05 A Haydn Festivel: First of nine concerts of Haydn's late chamber works. Takacs Quartet with Radu Lupu (piano) and Marie

the state of the s

Radio 3

Almeida with Frederica von Stade, soprano); Poulenc (Organ Concerto: French National Radio Orchestra

8.30 News
8.35 Composers of the Week: Sir
Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900).
Overture di ballo: RLPO
under Groves: I Would I
Were a King: David WrisonJohnson (bartone) and
Amony Saunders (piano);
Duo concertante: David
Smith (cello) and John Parry
(piano); Incidental music to
The Tempest: CBSO under
Dunn

minor; Maltier's Symphony No 3 in C sharp manor 12.50 Summoned by Bellis: 1960 recording of John Berjeman reading his 10-chapter surobiographical poem. Chapter one: Before 1914

McLaughtin (soprano)
perform Pieno Sonata in D;
Original canzonettas: The
Mermaid's Song;
Recollection: A Pastoral
Song: Despair; Piensing
Pain; and Fidelity; Piano
Sonata in C minor;
Variations in F minor for
pieno; and String Quartet in
G Op 76 No 1. Includes
1.55 interval readino

G Cp 76 No 1. Includes
1.55 interval reading
2.40 The Christmas Quiz: Annual
music quiz hosted by
Bernard Keelfe. Taking part
are Gillian Weir. Thomas
Allen, John McCabe and
Evelyn Barbirolli
3.30 Youth Orchestras of the
World: Midland Youth
Orchestra under James Orchestra under James Langley perform Amold'a Four Scottish Dances; Schubert's Symphony No 8 in 8 minor (Unfinished); and Walton's Suite from Henry \
4.25 Musica Antiqua, Cologne: J
C F Bach's Sonata in C, for

fine, harpsichord and violin (r)
4.40 Lotte Lehmann (1888-1975):
Alan Blyth reflects on the career of the German-born soprano (1)
5.30 Barry Douglas; The planist plays Totralkovsky's Romance in F Op 51 No 5, and September, June, August (The Seasons); Liszt's Apres une lecture du Denier and Reethowen's

Dante; and Beethoven's Sonata in B flat Op 106

7.00 News 7.05 Better Halves?: by Christopher Hope. With Patricia Routledge and 7.30 Mozart and Beethoven: Vienna Phitharmonic Orchestra under Abbado, with London Symphony Chorus, Vienna Wind Soloists, with Karita Mattila (soprano), Alfreda Hodgson isopranoj, Ameua Hoogson (mezzo-soprano), Jerry Hadley (tener), and Riobert Holl (bass), perform Mozart's Serenade in E flat (K 375); and Beethowen's

Symphony No 9 in D minor Choral) 9.10 A Short Walk from London to Vertice: Mike Steer's adaptation of Thomas Supplement of the property of

at Fugue; and Bellini's Reminiscences de Norma 10.55 Compass Points: The

LW (long wave) (s) Stereo on WHF 5.55 Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 Prefude (s) 6.50 Prayer for the Day (s) 6.55 Weather 7.00 News
7.10 Boxing Dey with Susan
Marling, Maureen Lipman
and Patrick Stoddert, incl
8.00 News and 7.55, 8.57

Weether 9.00 News 9.05 Conversation Piece in

David Peters, secretary of the British Holistic Medical Association

American opera singers. Today mezzo-soprano turned soprano Grace

1.40 The Archers (r)
2.00 News; Vivaldii First of a two-part beroque portrait of the Venetian composer by Graeme Fife. With David Buck as Antonio Vivaldi (s)

his schoolboy escapades (r)
3.00 News; Tom Jones: by Henry
Fleiding, adapted in six
parts by Hallarn Tennyson (s) (r)
4.20 Kaleidoscope: Christopher
Cook reviews and updates
the arts events of 1988 including the arrival of MOMI, the changing plac of Peter fiall and Jeremy isaacs, and the departure of Sir Frederick Ashton Journey Round My People: Jamaican-born Ferdi Dennis goes on a journey of Afro-Britain. His first stop is a

Radio 4

9.05 Conversation Piece in Hollywood (new series): In the first of a through-the-wack series Sue MacGregor talks to Walter Matthau 9.35 The Food Programme: After the feast comes the tast. Why do paople feel the need to fast? Derek Cooper examines secular and religious abetinence with Dr David Paters, secretary of Association
19.00 News; Perspective 88 (new series): Norman Stone, Professor of Modern History at Oxford University, introduces the first of five

introduces the first of the reviews of the year's topical issues. Today's subject is freedom and responsibility — is the Government becoming too intrusive?

10.30 My Grandfether: First of five recollections by Denis Constantings, Read by Benjamin Whitrow (s) (r)
10.45 Daily Service (s)
11.00 News; Grace Bumbry: Teleri
Bevan telks to three

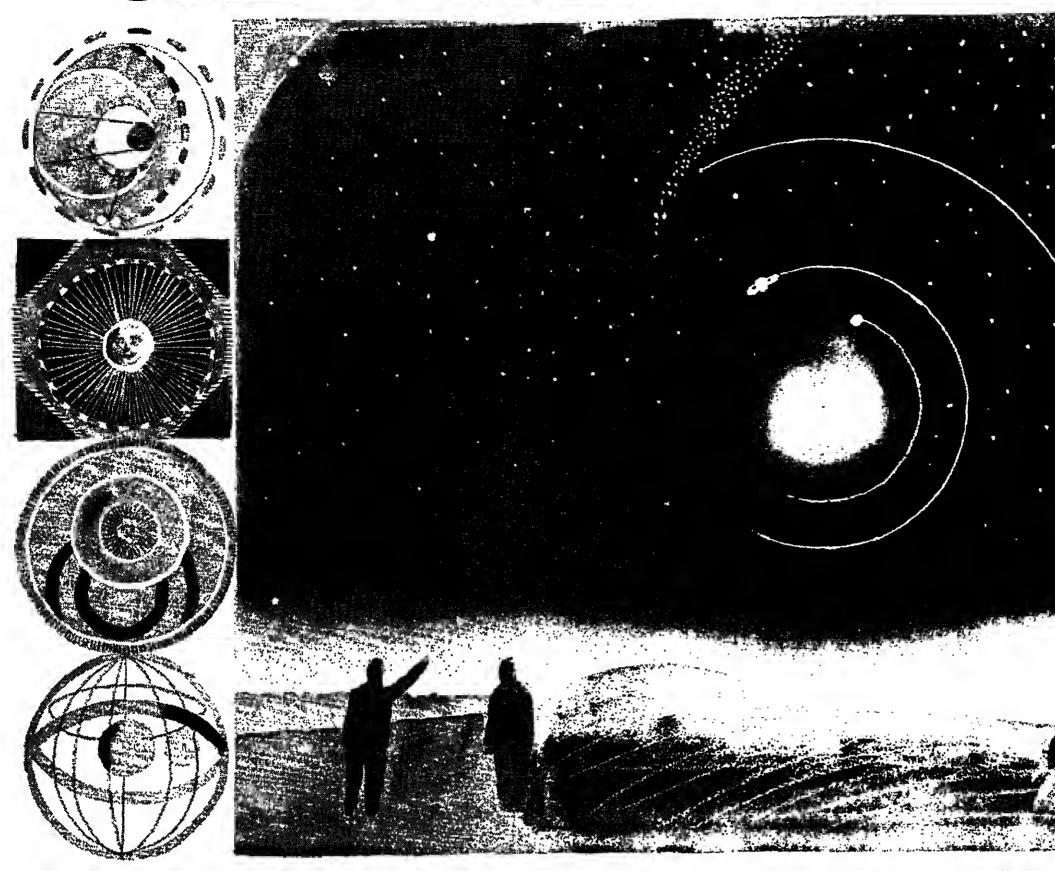
turned sopreno Grace
Bumbry (r)

12.00 News; Nation of
Shopkeepers (new series):
Debbie Thrower visits five
different shops. The first
one is Groove Records in
London's Soho area

12.25 Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy:
by John te Carre. Third of
seven-part dramstization by
Rane Basilico (s) (r) 12.55
Weether

Vertoer
1.00 Navs
1.10 Navs Cutz of the Year: The
year's memorable news
stories recalled by Richard
Ingrams, Alan Coren and
ian Hislop. Barry Took is in

CREATURES OF NIGHT



Let me be drawn up into the immensity. Into the darkness, where nothing can be known. Once there were creatures of light leaping across the firmament, and the pattern of their movement filled the heavens. But the creatures soon fled and in their place appeared great spheres of crystal which turned within each other, their song vibrating through all the strings of the world. These harmonies were too lovely to last. A clock was ticking in the pale hands of God, and already it was too late. Yes. The wheels of the mechanism began to turn. What was that painting by Joseph Wright of Derby? I saw it once. Was it called "The Experiment"? I remember how the light, glancing through a bell-jar, swerved upwards and covered the whole sky. But this too went out: the candle flame was blown away by the wind from vast furnaces, when the electrical powers swept across the firmament.

But there were always fields, fields of even time beyond the fires. Empty space reaching into the everlasting. At least I thought that as a child. Then there came a tremor of uncertainty. There was no time left. No space to float in. And everything began moving

111

away. Nothing but waves now their furrows tracking the path of objects which do not exist. Here is a star called Strange. Her is a star called Charmed. And after this, after this dream has passed, what then? What shape will the darkness take then? I . . . Damian Fall turned to his companion. "Of course, you know what we will be observing? "Aldebaran."

"Yes. There." Damian pointed towards the horizon, and both men looked out at the great star. One hundred and twenty times brighter than the sun," he said. And he put his hand above his eyes, as if shielding them from the heat. Burning star. Seeming to be red, but the colours shifting like an hallucination. In this same area of the sky they saw small cones of light, called Hyades and believed to he a greater distance from the earth - cool red stars glowing within the clouds of gas which swirled about them. And close to them the lights known as the Pleaides, involved in a blue nebulosity which seemed to stick against each star, the strands and filaments of its blue light smeared across the endless darkness. Behind these clusters they could see

The Scotch House.



FIRST LIGHT by Peter Ackroyd

The latest novel from the author of Hawksmoor and Chatterton will be published in the spring and also throughout this week in The Times, in six extracts

the vast Crab Nebula, so far from the earth that from this distance it was no more than a mist or a cloud, a haziness in the eye like the after-image of an explosion. And yet Damian could see further. He looked up and could see. Galaxies. Nebulae. Wandering planets. Rotating discs. Glowing interstellar debris. Spirals. Strands of brightness that contained millions of suns. Darkness like thick brushstrokes across a painted surface. Pale moons. Pulses of light, All these coming from the past, ghost images wreathed in mist which confounded Damian. I am on a storm-tossed boat out at sea, the dark waves around me. This was

skies - an unfathomable sea upon which they were drifting. Now we, too, talk of a universe filled with waves. We have returned to the first myth. And what if the stars are really torches, held up to light me on my way? I see what they saw in the beginning, even before the creatures of light appeared across the heavens. I can see the

first human sky.

"Yes," he said. "Aldebaran. Once this region was thought to form the nutline of a face in the constellation of Taurus." He looked at the face of his compan-ion, but he could see only a silhouette in the darkness. "But the Pleaides contains 300 stars in no real pattern. Just burning being destroyed, rushing ont-ward." The last vestiges of cloud had now drifted away and the entire night sky had reappeared, so bright and so clear that Damian Fall put out his band to it; then he turned his wrist, as if somehow he could turn the sky on a great wheel. And for a moment, as he moved his head, it did seem that the stars moved with him. "Why is it," he went on, "that we think of a circular motion as the most perfect? Is it because it has no

beginning and no end?"
"Nnw that's a deep question."
"Like circles in stone. You know there was an ancient historian who wrote about the stone circles around us here? Even on the moor. He describes how a god was supposed to return to the island of Britain every 19 years, the period in which the stars completed their cycle. During his visitation the god sang and danced continuously by night — on just such a night as this — from the spring equinox to the rising of the Pleaides. And of course the rising of Aldeberan with them." His young companion shifted his feet,

and said onthing. "A hundred thousand million galaxies. A hundred thousand million stars in each one."

"Serious numbers." "I wish we could see them all, but then probably the light would blind us. Still, we do our best." He turned around and looked back at the observatory, its white dome gleaming in the starlight. "What I meant to say," he went on, more cheerfully now, "is welcome to the project. Welcome to Holblack Moor.'

"Tea up." The two men were roused from the darkness, and stepped apart, as a young woman called over to them. "Almost dawn," she said. "Time for a nice

'Coming, Brenda. We're This star is Strange. And this is Charmed. Everything is rushing

what the earliest men saw in the away. Damian drank his tea and, under the light issuing from immensity, he chatted with Alec and with Brenda.

He drove back by way of Pilgrin Valley and, as he turned down the small track which ran beside it he was forced to brake suddenly in order to let a brown car pass. He looked at it curiously, and saw a man and woman sitting in the front, they were saying nothing to each other, but the woman was holding up a small mirror in order to pat her hair into place. It was already light.

The two in the car are Mark Clare and Evangeline Tupper, archaeologist and civil servant, who have come to inspect a great tumulus which has just been discovered.

"From ashes to ashes," she said. "How gorgeous."
"And you see," he went on,

where the fire died down within the ash forest? There. Over there.' In his excitement he took off his green deerstalker hat and pointed with it across the valley.

"You mean all those alarming black stains?" She peered vaguely in the direction of his outstretched hat, and noticed large scorch marks which at this distance looked like shadows on the earth The burnt trees were cleared

away, after the fire. And that's when we saw it." He looked at her, his eyes still wide. "That, Miss Tupper, is when we made the

"It's the most extraordinary story I have ever heard in my life." On this spring afternoon, her words disturbed the vast pool of bird song around them. "I'm getting goose bumps. Or are they

goose pimples?" Evangeline Tupper and Mark Clare were standing on a track-beside the west slope of Pilgrin Valley and ahead of them, across the east slope, stretched the bright grass which sprang from the chalk of this region. It is so bright that it seems to blaze and its line of flame to follow the curve of the chalkland for many miles, sweeping across its ledges and plateaux, filling its shallows and depressions, rising with its dunes and hills. From the air it appears to be a huge river moving inland from the sea but those who walk npon it know how fragile it can be, how easily uprooted from the soil, how close to the hard bed of the chalk itself so that its brightness becomes a kind of delirium, its green a fever of imminent des-

From the west slope of the valley they could see how one area

of the chalk grassland was still scorched and blackened after the fire but how, to both sides of it, the landscape remained as it had always been - the fields here of varying colours, as if clouds were passing overhead and turning the vivid green into darker shades of emerald or of jade. Here also there were patches of juniper scrub and, green bushes which from this distance looked almost black against the varying shades of the land. There was a ridge above the valley at this point, with a decaying plantation of beeches clustered upon it; mixed among the beeches there stood a clump of young ashes, their smooth grey bark like strips of light against the dark wood of the older trees. And there, further down, on the edge of the burnt forest, was the ancient tumulus iself.

The grass or turf which covered it was of a darker green than any in the fields beside it and although at first sight it might seem part of the natural landscape — its shape was like that of a hillock or dune — on further inspection it was clearly not in proportion with the rest of Pilgrin Valley. It was 12 feet at its highest point and some 80 or 90 feet in length, seeming to emerge from the side of the valley itself and then rising upwards before eventually tapering to a point. This long narrow mound might have marked the sudden emergence of some creature now extinct or have represented some ancient and forgotten disease in the landscape — a large growth which had for centuries been successfully concealed beneath the covering of ash trees, but which had now at last been revealed within the blackened circles of a

So, in Pilgrin Valley, close to the observatory on Holblack Moor, u tunulus has been found. But for Mark Clare, the principal archaeologist, it is the beginning of a difficult and painful journey.

Mark returned to his study after dinner, and sat among his books. Around him there were piles of his own papers, graphs, computer print-outs, and drawings as well as ald copies of archaeological journals and volumes of archaeological research. On his shelves, too, were antiquarian studies of the area itself. For Dorset was his nbsession. He believed that this place had its own sound - he had always heard a peculiarly soft quality in the bird song - and its own smells. And when be saw the sheep and carrie peacefully grazing in the fields he could feel the pressure of its beneficence, its curves and folds cradling the life which seemed to have issued from it. It possessed an almost human presence, as if the generations of those who had dwelt upon its surface had left some faint echo as difficult to recognize as the song of a particular bird, but a subdued persistent note beneath all other sounds. Or was it a colour rather than a note - that deep green, as rich as blood, as soft as breath, forever being renewed? When he lay upon the grass of Dorset it was as if he were being borne up by the

hands of all those who had come

before him. They were the ground on which he rested. Yes, this was a haunted place. It contained mysteries.

He took down a volume of

Dorset Antiqua. Even its title evoked for him the open fields, the hollows and recesses of green, the wooded horizons, the curving boundaries of the chalk, the soft peace. He did not want to read it, he just wanted to hold it in his hands and look at it, turning its musty and slightly damp pages and gazing once again at the engravings of the old landscape with its ancient mounds and long abandoned pathways. He stopped at one page, which contained a sketch of a tumulus somewhere in the region. It had been drawn impossibly large, no doubt by some 18th-century antiquary, and it dominated the rolling landscape like a leviathan. And yet in another sense it seemed to Mark to be in true perspective, since the landscape itself had been changed beyond recognition - with his finger he traced the outline of wild trees in the engraving their branches inked in so boldly that they seemed to be leaning in fright away from the mound, away from the ravines beneath them, away from the distant crags which contained no reassurance of any human community. All these features might have been emana-tions from the turnulus itself and, above them, the antiquary had depicted a livid and turbulent sky. But perhaps this was how the

landscape then was. Or perhaps, after the engraving was completed, this was the way it had become.

He looked up at the sky. The rainstorm had passed and it had become a clear, calm night — on just such a night Gabriel Oak was tending his sheep on Norcombe Hill in Thomas Hardy's Far from the Madding Crowd, and Hardy describes how the sovereign brilliance of Sirius pierced the eye with a steely glitter, the star called Capella was yellow, Aldebaran and Betelgeux shone with a fiery red" for this was a night when "the twinkling of all the stars seemed to be but throbs of one body, timed by a common pulse". But the stars are not pulsating in quite that manner. They are rushing away from an unknown point of origin. and this planet is rushing away with them, driven on by the force of some event that created time in the same unimaginable moment as it created space.

Mark Clare was not thinking of this. He looked up at the heavens and for him the constellations were transformed into the faces of Evangeline Tupper and Kathleen his wife. This was the story written across the sky. And then these faces faded, and he began to see the outline of an unknown child's face, "A child," he said, "Our own child."

Kathleen could not make out his words but she had heard the strange tone in his voice; she knocked softly and entered the room, seeing only his silhouette against the sky. Then she heard the collection of antique clocks chiming the hour in the shop beneath their flat - all of them; great and small, sounding tosether. "It's so dark in here. Mark," she said. "Put on the light You should put on the light."

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TOMORROW: EXPLORATIONS BEGIN

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Executive Editor David Brewerton

Takeshita victory on tax reforms

From Joe Joseph Tokyo

Mr Noboru Takeshita Japan's Prime Minister, spent Christmas day gloating over his success in finally pushing through parliament controersial tax reforms on which he has staked his political

The victory caps a year-long struggle against an unwilling public and a bostile opposition and strengthens Mr Takeshita's claim on a second two-year term in office next

A cut from next spring in duties on Scotch whisky is the fruit of stubborn nagging by the whisky industry and Mrs Thatcher. Some shrewd importers and shop-owners have already started cutting prices of Scotch to build up market

The new tax laws were put oo the statute book late on Christmas Eve after 26 hours of filibustering from oppo-

To stall the progress of the tax bills, opposition Socialists and Communists tabled five motions of no-confidence in the government and then voted on them first, but at a

The MPs, employing delaying tactic not used for 13 years, approached the ballot box on each motion in a slow step called the "gyuho," lit-erally the "ox walk." It took each MP 30 minutes to stroll the 30 yards from his seat to the ballot box.

It is the first major overhaul of Japan's tax system for 38

Its controversial linch-pin is a much-hated 3 per cent consumptioo tax — Japan's first important indirect tax which will shift some of the burden from direct to indirect taxation.

The tax on quality liquors, including Scotch, is a byproduct of the tax changes.

Scotland's whisky industry is looking to this tax cut to boost its sales in Japan, which, even now, spends fairly freely on expensive pure malts from Government economists

ggest the tax reforms could add another 0.2 per cent to Japan's economic growth for several years as income tax cuts leave workers with more Some businessmen, though,

think the government has not gone far enough.

In a statement guaranteed to unsettle foreign manufac-turers, Mr Eishiro Saito, chairman of Japan's Federation of Economic Organizations, said the government should try to lower income and corporate taxes further to help the Japanese economy compete with foreign countries "on an equal footing."

Hanson builds 8.32% stake in Cummins

Hanson has disclosed a stake of 886,000 shares, or 8.32 per cent, of the outstanding stock of Cummins Engine Co of the US and will seek government approval to acquire up to 15 per cent, it emerged over the weekend.

Cummins Engine, in response to the notice filed by Hanson, said it planned to continue being an indepen-

dent company. Hanson is seeking approval from its own shareholders for a substantial increase in borrowing powers to £11 billion. It has a cash pile of nearly £4 hillion.

Cummins has been the subect of strong speculation on Wall Street, and io the third quarter announced a trading loss. Cummins is valued at about \$750 million (£420 million).

A profile of Hanson will appear in The Times tomorrow.



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Professor Smith scoops the pool



Award winners every one: from left: Professor Roland Smith, Roland 'Tiny' Rowland, Jimmy Gulliver, Robert Maxwell, George Davies, Mohamed Al Fayed and Lord Young

ndividual achievements and disasters have flowed thick and fast this year, but since Britain's official New Year honours will scarcely reflect the true colour of Mammon, The Times again presents its own seasonal awards for business and the related arts.

Surprisingly, the year has been awash with mega-bids, most across the Atlantic or from the other side of the Channel. Groups such as BAT, Beazer and Grand Metropolitan led a processioo of British businesses anxious to display more faith in the US economy than the natives. Switzerland's Nestlé and Australasia's Goodman Fielder Wattie reinvented the value of brand names for City analysts, while, on a smaller scale, France's three aquatic musketeers proved that water could be exciting even

But the greater achievement is to buy the unsaleable for next to nothing and then convince the world that it is worth a King's ransom. All you need is the lateral thinking of a professor and the derring-do of an admiral. British Aerospace has

Within months of becoming and his chief executive, Sir Raymond Lygo, veteran of so many Whitehall battles, clinched the purchase of the state's 99.8 per cent of Rover Group for just £150 million. At a stroke they turned BAe into Britain's higgest manufacturer and exporter.

BAe solved a problem for the Government, which was desperate to be shot of Rover, could not sell it to the public and dared not sell it abroad. The terms were so generous that Brussels insisted on watering them down. But that did not stop the City making BAe one of the best performing big company

shares of the year. And the Professor and the Admiral still had time to win the lion's share of a record defence deal with Saudi Arabia. Both deserve our top prize, but as Sir Raymond has adopted a low-

er profile since the Westland affair, the award for Supreme Achievement goes to Prof Smith.

GrandMet's Allen Sheppard was another strong candidate for the top award, if only for hyperactivity, but still has some questions to answer. He is, however, hailed as Capitalist of the Year, an award which features a certain essential lack of sentiment. Mr Sheppard sold 700 pubs. an extraordinary voluntary act for a brewer. He then organized several bids for Irish Distillers Group, all thwarted because Mr Sheppard was honest enough to say his aim was to break up the cosy whiskey monopoly - which did not go down well in Dublin.

He shifted into top gear to sell the hotel division for \$2.3 billion (£1.3 billion) and paid oearly \$6 billion for the Pillsbury food and hamburger group. His modest ambition is to make GrandMet the world's top food and drink maker Runner-up was another true cap-

whose attempt to gain control of Société Générale de Belgique was really a takeover bid for Belgium. Sadly for the typewriter and pasta king, the Belgians fought him off.

Managers actually building their own businesses are candidates for Industrialist of the Year. Sir Ernest Harrisoo of Racal, who built up Vodafone to be worth more than his original business, just beat Sir Robert Scholey of British Steel. Sir Robert has won too many other

The subsidiary award of Rising Capitalist carries something of the incubus of a knighthood from Mrs

The City had a busy year coping with mega-bids, worsening economic statistics

and redundancies. Graham Searjeant hands out the brickbats and bouquets

Thatcher for entrepreneurial brilliance. Our previous winners, Richard Bransoo and Martin Sorrell, have at least survived their problems much better than Sir Clive Sinclair, Sir Phillip Harris or Sir Freddie Laker, This year's queasy winner is Michael Green of Carlton Communications, who has a finger in most of the fashionable televisual pies, bought Technicolor for \$780 million and is as well placed as anyone for the TV gold rush.

There was a strong field this year for our other major award. The Poisoned Chalice, for those who, for no sensible reason, take on an impossible joh. David Walker was persuaded to take on the Securities and Investments Board as part of Robin Leigh-Pembertoo's great Bank of England boardroom purge. He will surely be damned by the public for selling out to the City bigwigs, and by the City bigwigs for making their life impossible.

ut the caustic cup goes to an even more outstanding candidate. Jimmy Gulliver created Argyll Foods but quixotically gave up his wonderful job as supermarket king. Instead, he took over Sir Phillip Harris's ailing Harris Queensway, the big shed furniture operation, which was failing to draw the spending crowds long before consumers became bored with consumer durables.

Argyll, trading uoder the Safeway banner, goes from strength to

strength. The new Lowndes Queeosway cootinues to sag further. The cup passeth on. Sir Phillip was one of many

candidates for Fallen Angel sculpted in 100 per cent lead crystal. But George Davies pipped them all. In 1989, it could be "Next Please" as candidates line up to be pushed over the precipice of

fashionable success.

The Lady Bountiful Plate, for those who flaunt rather than merely speod, goes to Robert Maxwell, who managed to pay more than £2 billion for Macmillan and Official Airline Guides, much more than most thought they were worth. He was also busy expanding on the Cootinent, preparing the launch of another paper and belping a friend by huying 5 per cent of the world's largest construction company. That even more dedicated bor-

rower, Australia's Alan Bond, made himself a candidate by buying the world's most expensive painting to put behind bis office desk, when his bankers make do with a calendar. His stalking of Lonrho wins him the Icarus Waxwing. Lourho tried to bring his attempt at supersonic flight back to earth by reminding his bankers

what they were doing.
The enduring feud between
Lonrho's Roland "Tiny" Rowland and Mohamed Al Fayed pitched the claims of the Harrod's proprietor to family wealth and social standing against Mr Rowland's amour propre at being outsmarted by the Egyptian. Their shared

vanity makes them joint winners of the Golden Narcissus.

Former CBI leader Sir David Nickson earns a new award, the Uncle Tom Cobbleigh Mug for oon-executive directors. As an eagle-eyed outside director of Clydesdale Bank, he failed to notice that Clydesdale's parent, National Australia Bank, was providing much of the mooey for John Elliott to hid for his own company, Scottish & Newcastle Breweries.

Several citations were won in the reat IDG war. M Thierry Jacquillat, managing director of Pernod Ricard, is undisputed winner of the White Knight Shield, having undergone many hours testifying in perfect English in the Duhlin High Court.

he merchant bank Schroders, in the person of Robert Swannell, managed to gain IDG for Pernod with a much lower bid while staying just far enough within the bounds of propriety to stop being scuppered by the Takeover Panel, Barely three years ago, Schroders was out of favour, but a successful defence of Pilkington and the troy fell have made it the most prominent bank in the takeover game and winner of this year's Niccolo Machiavelli Adviser of the Year

The Panel's director general, Antony Beevor, and chairman Lord Alexander restored respect whittled down over many years. lo the IDG case, they were damned on all sides but consistently came up with sensible answers, earning the new award of Umpire's White Coat. Unlucky runner-up was Sir Kenneth Berrill, who stopped Barlow Clowes from trading just before he was removed from office,

thus earning the only praise so far for the SIB.

Ireland's Peter Sutherland pipped Lord Weiostock for the 1992 Perpetual Calendar. As competition Commissioner, he made Brussels the spectre at many a private feast, usually embarrassing Whitehall claims to protect consumers. He still lost his job for being io the wrong Irish party, hut his high profile will no doubt help his political career at home.

Politician of the Year is Rudolf Agnew, whose campaign rail-roaded the Government into referring Minorco's bid for Consolidated Gold Fields to the Mooopolies Commission on the flimsiest pretext yet devised.

But the professional politicians, who have been excluded from the top awards, canoot be kept out entirely. Nigel Lawson is out on his own for this year's Foot In Month Statuette for dismissing the nation's oew-found economic anxieties as "merely a blip." Sadly, the hlip is likely to be with him and everyone else for most of next year.

Nicholas Ridley wears the Nelson Patch for pretending not to notice all the frantic takeover bids in the water industry while he prepares for privatization of the 10 water authorities.

Laissez-faire propbet Lord Young spent the year intervening, or at least catching the headlines, more often than any predecessor since 1951. His most remarkable efforts were, however, devoted to foreign bids. They were welcome, he said, especially from Australia. Back home, be kept referring them to the MMC, especially if from Australia. He is an outstanding winner of our final award, the Rubber Duck for Flexibility. His policy of single-minded inconsistency could well be a motto for those who hope to survive in 1989.

Plenty of good value but little excitement

In 1988 equities were distinguished by a few high spots of bid activity and the rest barely marking time. Here the professionals give their views for 1989

& Commonwealth, cannot see nomy would need to deteriorthe stock market going any- ate sharply to send prices where until the institutions are much lower and I would put certain they can see a pro- the floor at 1,700. By the seclonged downturn in interest ond quarter we should be on

Mr John Gunn, the chairman

"Investors should be prepared to buy value, not necess-rket will be looking through arily to mature in 1989 but for the bottom of the economic 1990 or 1991. There will be cycle towards the next uplift." superb value next year," he

Mr Gunn's choice of share that fits his own criterion of value is Anglia Secure Homes, and he backs it with real mooey: British & Commonwealth has a 23 per cent come right again, and the

The company provides retrement homes for an increasingly affluent sector of the population, where Mr Guon says demand is governed by need, not limited by price. He considers the company

is capable of annual growth of sees a very similar market 25 to 30 per cent over the oext pattern against a background three to four years, but the shares stand on a p/e ratio of only nine. "it's a nonsense. This is an extremely high-quality defensive stock."

At James Capel, the broking house which looks cleverer by the day for sticking to agency broking rather than marketmaking, Mr Charles Larkum, British equity strategist, like Mr Gunn, is not looking for any early excitement, but projects the pick-up slightly before Mr Gunn. He considers that by the year end, the FT-SE index will be at 2,000 to

"The downside at present and chief executive of British levels is very limited. The ecoan improving trend and by late 1989 or early 1990 the ma-His choice of investment for the conditions be foresees is

Sedgwick Group, the in-surance broker which has been out of favour for some time. "The fundamentals for insurance brokers are starting to market with its discounting ability will begin to reflect this io advance. I expect Sedgwick to be re-rated in the coming

Mr Bob Cowell, the managiog director of Hoare Govett Securities, the market-maker. of profit downgradings, neutral statements about trading prospects and consumer spending hitting a brick wall.

If Hoare Govett economic

forecasts are borne out - 2.5 per cent growth in 1989, a touch more in 1990; inflation peaking at nearly 8 per cent before falling to below 5 per cent by December - the sec-ond half of the year will be "much more rewarding," be says. On this basis the FT-SE could be heading towards 2,200 by the year end. Two sectors which he be-

lieves will experience a change









Four voices, one view: Cowell - more rewarding second half; Knox - the brave rally forth; Thompson - some hope but little cheer; Gunn - look to

in fortune are food retailers, whose earnings progress' bod-es for a better 1989, and property, which could soon run out of momentum and give up its star status. Individual iovestments

must include Hanson, offering a 6 per cent yield with ample resources to keep the dividend moving ahead; Rolls Royce languishing on seven times earnings which are much higher quality and lower risk than generally perceived; while a European market leader like BPB must surely attract predatory attention as the building sector suffers what he describes as "negative analytical vibes."

As for more general trends in "Quoted UK plc"? "Expect dividend growth to exceed earning growth; watch for the emergence of Japanese "white knights" with deep pockets in some of the new year's contested hids; while share repurchases look set to become a

much more fashionable use of are being sorted out. There is corporate cash flow - after all new management, finances what better long-term investment for a confident board than its own lowly-rated

Mr Paddy Linaker, who heads M&G Investment Management, insists that while short-term investors may feel there is little to go for, those British economy is not rosy; it taking a longer-term view are is hampered by high interest buying very good value at rates and a high pound, both

In general be feels the cine to reduce the balance of outlook is for a continued trade deficit and cut off serincrease in earnings and divi-

it seems extremely unlikely to us that the UK will stop growing economically. Liquidity is extremely high and there is likely to be continued activity in the takeover field." Mr Linaker picks Standard

In the stock market there "UK economic activity is will be little in the way of (and needs) to be reduced, but capital profit to be made, the bulk of the total return from investment coming from income. Shares to go for are those offering dividend income growth. "My two choices are GEC and Tate & Lyle where business prospects Chartered. The shares are still and good management should heavily depressed by former

Back in London, Mr Jeffrey Thompson, head of equity are sound after the rights issue strategy at Barclays de Zoete and performance is already Wedd, offers some hope but little cheer. Both the British possibility of a bid. and US stock markets will be From Edinburgh, Mr Alex materially lower at some stage Hammond-Chambers of Ivoin 1989 than now, he predicts.

ry & Sime takes a cautious "It may surprise some that view. "The outlook for the my share of the year is an engineering stock. Indeed, the macro-economic background does oot point to sector of which are necessary medioutperformance but its diversity offers selective opportunities," he says. ious inflation," he says.

"I point to Hawker Siddeley Group, a well-balanced company which offers long order books, solid earnings growth and good secure performance; the company's management strategy will bear fruit."

Mr Graeme Knox of Scottish Amicable Investment Managers observes: "When interest rates are high it always seems comfortable to enjoy the generous returns of high

income deposit accounts. However, this is the time when the brave rally forth. In such periods of doubt lie opportunities and though patience may be required during the first half of 1989 a wellchosen spread of British equities bought today should prove rewarding.

"Our own favourites include unloved retailers and electronics companies for the longer term while we still like property shares in the shorter term. One stock we believe may do well but which is clearly not for the fainthearted is MBS, the ailing micro-computer distributer. Costs have been pruned and the izunch of the new Amstrad PC in the spring should bolster sales. However, it is a recovery situation and must be regarded as a very much higher than average risk."

David Brewerton

Court has jurisdiction to issue world-wide asset-freezing orders

Derby & Co Ltd and Others v Weldon and Others (No 3 and No 4)

Before Lord Donaldson of Lymington, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss [Judgment December 16]

A court had power in appropriate cases to grant an interlocatory Maneya injunction, preventing the dissipation of assets, on a world-wide basis against any person property before it, even where the party against whom the injunction was granted had no assets within the jurisdiction of the court.

The Crust of Amend dis-

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the third defendants, CML Holding SA of Linembourg ("CMI") against orders of Sr Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, (The Times November 15, 1988) whereby be had granted a world-wide Mareva injunction and appointed a receiver of the assets of CML.

The Court of Appeal also allowed a cross-appeal by the plaintiffs, Derby & Co Ltd and six other companies in the Salomon group of companies, against the Vice-Chancellor's refusal to continue a world-wide Mareva injunction granted ex-parte against the fourth defen-dant, Milco Corporation of

Mr George Bompas and Miss Rosalind Nicholson for CMI and Milco: Mr Michael Lyndon-Stanford, QC, Mr Charles Purle and Mr J. Stephen Smith for the plaintiffs; Mr Leslie Kosmin for

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the appeal was by the fourth defendant, CML Holding SA of Luxembourg (referred to in argument and in the judgment as "CM1" [because it used to be called Cocoa Merchants International] in order to distinguish it from the plaintiff. Cocoa Merchants

Three issues arose, namely: 1 Whether, and if so in what terms, a pre-judgment Mareva injunction should be granted against a foreign defendant who had no assets within the jurisdistion of the court diction of the court.

Whether, and if so in what

circumstances and oo what

be appointed before judgment for purposes similar to those served by a Mareva injunction.

3 Whether, and if so in what circumstances and on what terms, such a foreign defendant should be required to disclose the nature, value and whereabouts of his assets.

The fundamental principle

abouts of his assets.

The fundamental principle underlying the Mareva jurisdiction was that, within the limits of its powers, no court should permit a defendant to take action designed to ensure that subsequent orders of the court were rendered less effective than would otherwise be the case.

On the other hand, it was not its purpose to prevent a defendant and principle.

on the other hand, it was not its purpose to prevent a defendant carrying on his business in the ordinary way. Nor was it its purpose to place the plaintiff in the position of a secured

The jurisdictional basis of the Mareva injunction was to be found in section 37(1) to (3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981. What changed was not the power or the principles but the general, in which courts were asked to exercise that jurisdic-tion. That could and did call for changes in the practice of the courts.

A failure or refusal to grant an

A failure or refusal to grant an injunction in any particular case was an exercise of discretion which could not, as such, provide a precedent binding on another court concerned with another case, save in so far as that refusal was based opon basic principle applicable in buth such the results had some

When the matter had come before the Vice-Chancellor there had been no evidence showing, or giving rise to any inference, that CML a Luxembourg company, had any assets within the jurisdiction. That remained the position, although it now appeared that a company within the group of companies of which CMI was the holding company might have such assets.

The first submission on behalf of CMI was that a necessary pre-condition for granting a Mareva injunction was that the defendant had some assets within the jurisdiction. Mr Bompas submitted that that was the ratio decidendi of Intraco Ltd v Notis Shipping Corporation ([1981] 2 Lloyd's Rep 256).

payment under a guarantee from the jurisdiction. The defendants had successfully apdetendants had successfully ap-pealed against the Mareva injunction on the ground that any moneys payable under it were payable in Greece, a matter which had never been pointed out to the judge, and that accordingly the moneys would never be within the jurisdiction and capable of being removed from it. from it.

No one had suggested that No one had suggested that there were other assets within the jurisdiction or that the injunction should be extended to cover the dissipation of Greek assets. The decision neither supported nor detracted from CMI's contention.

The normal form of order should be confined to assets within the jurisdiction because most defendants operated na-tionally rather than internation-ally. But once the court was concerned with an international operator the position might well be different.

The key requirement for any Mareva injunction, whether or not it extended to foreign assets, was that it should accord with was that it should accord with the rationale upon which Mareva relief had been based in the past. If for the achievement of that purpose it was necessary to make orders concerning for-eign assets, such orders should be made, subject to ordinary

principles of international law.

When the Vice-Chancellor had said that special circumstances had to be present be had been saying no more than that the court should not go further than necessity dictated, that in the first instance it should look to assets within the jurisdiction and that in the majority of cases there would be no justification for looking to foreign assets.

There was neither rhyme por reason in regarding the existence of some asset within the juris-diction of however little value as a pre-condition for granting a areva injunction in respect of assets outside the jurisdiction.
The existence of assets within the jurisdiction was an excellent reason for confining the juris-

diction to such assets, but the fewer the assets the greater the necessity for taking protective measures in relation to those

It was only recently that litigants had sought extra-terri-torial relief. It had been granted in three cases to which the Vicethere enjoined the defendants

Chancellur had referred:
Babanaft International Co SA v
Bassaine (The Times July 2,
1988); Republic of Haiti v
Duvalier (The Times July 28,
1988) and Derby & Co Ltd v
Weldon (No 1) (The Times
August 2, 1988).

M. R. Ramese cought to disting

Mr Bompas sought to distinguish Babanaji on the ground that the injunction had been that the injunction had been granted in aid of execution of an existing judgment. That was a distinction in that the court would have less hesitation in taking measures in support of a judgment creditor than it would in support of a potential judg-ment creditor.

He sought to distinguish the Republic of Haiti case on the ground that it was a tracing case and that the funds were under the control of an agent within the jurisdiction. That was a distinction in fact, although it was not certain that it was a distinction of originals. distinction of principle.

He sought to distinguish Derby & Co Ltd v Weldon (No 1) on the ground that the defen-dants had assets within the jurisdiction, but, for the reasons given, that was not a distinction in principle.

in principle.

Mr Bompas relied on the decision of the House of Lords in South Carolina Insurance Co v Assurantie Maatschappij "De Zeven Provincien" NV [[1987] 1 AC 24) for the general proposition that the jurisdiction of the court under section 37(1) of the 1981 Act was "cirrumeral proposition that the purisdiction of the court under section 37(1) of the 1981 Act was "cirrumeral by the section of the court under section 1981 Act was "cirrumeral by the section of the court under section 1981 Act was "cirrumeral by the section of the section 1981 Act was "circumscribed by judicial authority dating back many years": per Lord Brandon of Oakbrook (at p40).

accepted because Lord Brandon said in terms that the jurisdiction in relation to Mareva the principle that its exercise was circumscribed by judicial authority, and the House had not been considering a case which involved Mareva injunc-

Once the suggested distinction based oo the absence of any assets within the jurisdiction was rejected, the short answer to the submission that the court could or should not grant a Moreva injunction extending to the overseas of CMI was pro-vided by Derby & Co Ltd v Weldon (No I).
That was binding authority

for the proposition that the court could grant such an

and persuasive authority for doing so. The Vice-Chancellor had then gone on to consider other as-pects stemming from the fact that CMI and Milco differed from the first and second defendants in that they were juridical and not natural persons and were incorporated abroad — CMI in Luxembourg and Mileo

The first was that "nothing brings the law into greater disrepute than the making of orders which cannot be enforced. The maxim equity does not act in vain is a very sound

The Vice-Chancellor was plainly right in his general proposition, although it required careful examination in the context of particular It was difficult to believe that

in using the words "cannot be enforced" he meant "cannot be specifically enforced". That that was not the true test was clear. It was only if there was doubt about whether the order would be obeyed and if, should that

be obeyed and if, should that occur, no sanction would exist, that the court should refrain from making an order which the justice of the case required.

That consideration had led the Vice-Chancellor to examine the extent to which a Marena injunction could be enforced against CMI in Luxembourg, which was a party to the European Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters (signed at Brussels in 1968) to which the United Kingdom gave effect by United Kingdom gave effect by the Civil Jurisdiction and Judg-ments Act 1982.

ments Act 1982.

That was deserving of examination, but a sufficient sanction existed in the fact that in the event of disobedience the court could bar the defendant's right to defend. CMI had cooperated fully with the receiver appointed by the Vice-Chancellor.

When it came to Milco the Vice-Chancellor had said that

When it came to Milco the Vice-Chancellor had said that "there is no evidence before me that either a Mareva order or any eventual judgment can be enforced against Milco in Panama even if it has any assets". That involved two considerations, lack of assets and Panamanian enforcement. Panamanian enforcement. So far as lack of assets was

that until recently Milco had had very considerable assets. An alleged and unproved lack of assets should not be regarded as a bar in the making of the order.

a bar in the making of the order.

So far as enforcement was concerned, the ordinary sanction of being debarred from defending should suffice, but in any event it was a mistake in spend time considering whether English orders and judgments could be enforced against Panamassian open contents in Panamassian manian companies in Panama.

If, in due time, the plaintiffs were concerned to enforce a judgment against Milco, they would be resorting to the jurisdiction where its assets, if any,

appened to be. No distinction should be made between CMI and Milco in relation to the grant of a Mareva injunction.

The third requirement examined by the Vice-Chancellor had been that the Mareva injunction should not conflict with the ordinary principles of international law. That had two aspects: the nature or content of the order itself and the office. the order itself and the effect npon third parties. Considerations of county required the courts to refrain from

quired the courts to refrain from making orders which infringed the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of other countries. A Mareva injunction operated solely in personam and did not normally offead the principle.

Court orders bound only those to whom they were addressed. However, it was a serious contempt of court for anyone to interfere with the administration of justice. That occurred if someone, knowing of the terms of the court order. of the terms of the court order, assisted to the breach of it by the person to whom it was addressed.

All that worked well so long as the "aider and abetter" was wholly within the jurisdiction of the court or wholly outside it. Unfortunately juridical persons, notably banks, operated across

Was action by a foreign bank Was action by a foreign bank to be regarded as cootempt, although it would not be so regarded but for the probably irrelevant fact that it happened to have an English branch? Was action by the foreign branch of an English bank to be regarded as contempt, when other banks is the area were free to comply

in the Babanafi appeal and had given rise in the "Babanafi proviso" which had been included in the order made by the Vice-Chancellor.

cluded in the order made by the Vice-Chancellor.

There was no doubt of the practical need for some proviso, because in its absence banks operating abroad did not know where they stood and foreign banks ontside the jurisdiction of the English courts might take offence at being, as they saw it, ordered about by the English courts. It was not certain that the Bahanasi proviso was the right answer to that dilemma.

The first objection was that it treated natural persons differently from juridical persons, the second was that it placed an English corporate bank to a very difficult position.

The third objection, which his Lordship recorded without

The third objection, which his Lordship recorded without expressing a view on its validity, was that an order which included that proviso had ex facie to extraterritorial effect and so was not of a character enabling it as he recognized under the it in be recognized under the Brussels Convention and enforced abroad thereunder. The Vice-Chancellor had ap-

pointed a receiver of the assets of CMI and had ordered CMI and the two individual defendants to do all in their power to vest those assets in the receiver. That order should be affirmed That order should be aimmed subject only to amending the Bahanaft proviso and deleting the proviso that the order requiring CMI and the individual defendants to vest the assets in the receiver should only take

Panama was not a party to the Brussels Conventioo or to any agreement to which effect would be given under the Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act 1933. There would therefore be problems in enforc-ing the orders of the English courts in Panama.

That should not be regarded

by the Luxembourg courts.

as an absolute bar to the appointment of a receiver of its assets. What mattered was the extent to which the receiver could carry out his task. That would be to preserve any assets of Milco. He would be assisted by the

sanction that, absent co-operation, Mileo would not be allowed to defend the action. He io the area were free to comply with the defeodant's instructions?

All that had been considered in the second result also be assisted by the Convention if any assets were in countries which were parties to it. There was no reason why

Milco should be treated any differently from CMI.
Once it was decided that a Once it was decided that a receiver should be appointed of Milco's assets in followed that Milco should be ordered in reveal the nature, value and whereabouts of those assets.

The orders in relation in CMI should be varied by deleting the hould be waried by deleting the should be waried by the should be should

proviso in the Marera iojunc-tion and the receivership order tion and the receiversing order and substituting in each case 2 proviso that in so far as the order purported in have any effect outside England and Wales no person should be affected thereby until it should have been declared enforceable anected thereby until it should have been declared enforceable or recognized or registered by a foreign court, and then it should only affect them to the extent of such declaration or enforcement unless they were a person to whom the order was addressed whom the order was addressed or an officer or agent appointed by a power of attorney of such person or persons who were subject to the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal and had been given written notice of the order at their residence or place of business within the jurisdiction and was within the jurisdiction and were able to prevent acts or omissions outside the jurisdic-tion of the court which assisted in the breach of the terms of the

LORD JUSTICE NEILL, concurring, said that the time had come in state unequivocally that io an appropriate case the court had power to grant an interlocutory injunction even on a world-wide basis against any person who was properly before the court, so as in prevent that person by the transfer of his property frustrating a future judgment of the court.

The jurisdiction was one which the court required and

was consistent with the wide words of section 37(1) of the

It was essential for the court to adapt the guidelines for the exercise of a discretion to meet changing circumstances and new conditions provided always that the court did not exceed the jurisdiction conferred on it by Parliament or by subordinate legislation. It remained true that the jurisdiction had to be exercised with care. Lord Justice Butler-Sloss

delivered a concurring Solicitors: Theodore God-dard; Lovell White Durrant;

'Honourable engagement' term limit

Home and Overseas Insurance Co Ltd v Menter Insurance Co (UK) Ltd (in liquidation)

Before Lord Justice Parker, Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord [Judgment December 9]

An "honourable engagement" clause to a commercial reinsurance contract, providing that the arbitrators make their award so is to effect the general purpose of the reinsurance agreement. did not leave them free to make decisions without regard to the law but did give them liberty to depart from giving a literal construction to express contractual terms in order to achieve the commercial purpose of the

Whether or not reinsurers could avoid their contractual obligations following a liqui-dation of the reinsured was a matter for such decision by

The Court of Appeal so stated in reserved judgments in upholding a decision of Mr Justice Hirst in the Queen's Bench Division (The Times August 11, 1988) granting a stay Mentor Insurance Co (UK) Ltd (now in voluntary liquidation) of the claim by the reinsurers, Home and Overseas Insurance Co Ltd, brought in proceedings under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court for a declaration that they were not liable to

The reinsurers were refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

make any payments.

Mr Christopher Clarke, QC and Mr Stephen Ruttle for the reinsurers; Mr Jonathan Mance, QC and Mr Gavin Kealey for

LORD JUSTICE PARKER said that the cootracts of reinsurance were entered into between 1973 and 1981. In 1985 the reinsured went into vol-

untary liquidation.
The dispute was whether, as the reinsurers contended, the contracts permitted recovery by ired only of those sums that had been paid by the reinsured to their insured.

payment by the reinsured was a condition precedent to their right to recover under the contracts. The reinsured con-tended that regardless of the positions prior to their liqui-dation, once the liquidation occurred no such condition

The reinsurers' liability was for the excess of ultimate net loss over a specified amount. The contracts defined "ultimate net loss" as "the sum actually paid by the reassured in settlement of losses". The reinsured claimed against the reisurers under the contracts in respect of claims that they had oot been able to pay to their assured.

Disputes arising between the parties were under the contracts to be referred to two arbitrators.
Further the "honourable engagement" clause provided that the arbitrators "make their award with a view to effecting the general purpose of this reinsurance in a reasonable manner rather than in ac-cordance with a literal inter-

pretation of the language". The reinsurers' case that they were entitled to a declaration that they were not liable to make any payments was that the contracts clearly showed that payment was a precondition to the right of recovery and that no arbitrators properly applying the law could come to any other

The arbitration clause, it was said, was of no avail to the reinsured because construction of the contract was a matter of law and whatever the "hone able engagement" provision did allow, it could not allow arburgiors to depart from the law. The purpose of the provisions

Order 14 was in enable a plaintiff to obtain a quick judgment where there was plainly no defence to his claim. But it should not be allowed to become a means for obtaining, in effect, an immediate trial of an action.

In cases where there was an arbitration clause it was the more necessary that full-scale argument be permitted. The gard to the law but according to

The reinsurers' case was that parties had agreed on their their own notions of what would ayment by the reinsured was a chosen tribunal and a defendant be fair would not be valid. was entitled, prima facie, to have the dispute decided by that

> In cases of commercial arbitration those remarks applied with even greater force, especially when the dispute turned oo construction, or the implication of terms or trade

ness as the parties were as well or better able than the court to judge what the parties should be taken to have meant or intended by the words they had used. Indeed in such cases the court should not, save in the clearest without the benefit of the arbitrator's views.

Those observations might at first sight appear to conflict with the observations by the Court of Appeal to European Asian Bank AG v Punjab & Sind Bank (No 2) ([1983] 1 WLR 642, 654) and Zukhem International Construction Ltd v Nippon Kokan KK ([1987] 2 Lloyd's Rep

But those cases indicated no more than that it was insufficient for a defendant to raise an arguable point of law if that point could be readily demonstrated to he

The case raised three issues: I Whether actual payment could be taken to mean established liability to pay — at least on a liquidation. That issue io itself raised serious, difficult and important matters on which the judgment here and now.

2 The extent to which, if at all, the arbitration clause enabled the arbitrators to depart from the ordinary and natural meaning of the words used.
The reinsured submitted that

the "honourable engagement" clause was valid and permitted the arbitrators to treat the question of interpretation more leniently than would be done if the matter were heard in court. Unquestionably a clause purporting in free arbitrators to

decide the matter without re-

But this clause did no such thing. It did no more than give to the arbitrators liberty to do that which was approved by the House of Lords in The Antaios ([1985] AC 191). Lord Diplock (at p201) said that if a detailed, semantic and syntactical analy-

then they had to "be made to vield yield to commonsense". business The "honourable engage-ment" clause warranted the arbitrators doing what they had in The Antaios - namely, departing from literal or ordoubtful whether the clause

sis of words in a commercial

contract led to a conclusion that

flonted business commonsense.

conferred any further latitude but it was undesirable to lay down precise limits in the If the arbitrators went further, then the question of whether they had gone too far would fall to be considered on an appeal, if

leave was given. 3 Whether section 597 of the Companies Act 1985 overrode the requirement, if it was one, that the reinsured had to pay before he was entitled to re-

factor in interpreting the con-tracts. If, however, it was a separate point then it was a serious one requiring detailed

argument.
The judge did not err in eranting a stay. Given that there was a serious defence, the reinsured were clearly entitled to have it decided by their chosen tribunal. Should that tribunal decide in the reinsured's favour the reinsurers might seek leave to appeal. Should that arise the court should bear in mind Lord Diplock's words in The Antaios (at p203) that leave should not be given unless "a strong prima facie case has been made out that the arbitrator had been

wrong in his construction". Lord Justice Lloyd gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Balcombe agreed. Solicitors: Ince & Co; Cam-

eron Markby.

COURSES

Setting aside judicial review leave appropriate to allow an applica- failed to allow him to attend and

Regina v District Auditor Chelmsford, Ex parte Judge Before Mr Justice Rose [Judgment December 5]

An application to set aside an ex An application to set aside an ex-parte grant of leave to move for judicial review ought only to be made in the most exceptional circumstances, and then should, if possible, be made to the judge who granted it.

Mr Justice Rose so held in the Queen's Bench Division, in finding that such circumstances did exist and setting aside a grant by Mr Justice Simon Brown to Peter Francis H. Judge oo September 13, 1988, of leave to move to quash decisions taken by the Chelmsford Dis-1988.

Mr David Holgate for the district auditor; Mr Judge in Derson.

MR JUSTICE ROSE said that Mr Judge submitted there were two questions for decision. First, did local government electors have a right to attend in person before the district auditor, so as to make oral representations to him? Underlying that was a second ques-tion, as to the accountability of the solicitors acting for the South Molton Parish Council. The true questions, however,

were more parrow, namely, (i) could it ever be appropriate for one judge to set aside an ex parte

grant by another of leave to move; and if so, (ii) in what In R v Westminster City Council, Ex parte Zestfair Ltd and Others (unreported, March 11, 1987) Mr Justice Otton had, while accepting that the court had such jurisdiction, held that "it should be exercised only in very special circumstances, such as fundamentally misconceived proceedings, or where leave has been granted where there has been either fraud on the part of

His Lordship would respectfully adopt that statement, while adding that in the overwhelming majority of cases it would be

the applicant . . . or non-disclo-sure of a material fact or facts, or

where there is any misconcep-

tion, leave for which had been given, to proceed to a full bearing on the merits — particularly where the intervening pas-sage of time would not be detrimental to either party.

In support of the respondent's application to set aside the leave granted by Mr Justice Simon Brown (of whom there could be no criticism whatever, since he had seen only a tiny proportion of the material now available). an affirmation by the respon-dent's solicitor had been filed.

From that it was clear that Mr Judge really had two com-plaints: that the comcil had wrongly spent money maintaining a public highway, and that in 1985/86 it had paid to its solicitors a fee of some £300 which related to three individuals, of whom Mr Judge was

As to the alleged highway, it appeared to be comprised in land let to the council and that the council had covenanted to

keep it in good repair. As to the solicitors' fee, it was apparent that the nature of Mr Judge's attack on that had now shifted to a claim that the voucher relating to it, provided by the council's solicitors, was

This was not the first time he had complained to the courts about that: be had told his Lordship that he had prosecuted the council in the mas court on account of the alleged insufficiency of that voucher; that a submission of no case to answer had been upbeld; that the magistrates' clerk had refused to entertain a second prosecution; and that his application for leave to move to quash that refusal had itself been successively refused by Mr Justice Hodgson (on paper) and by Mr Justice Kennedy (orally), and was now on its way to the

Court of Appeal. In support of his present application for judicial review of the respondent's decisions Mr Judge had advanced ten grounds, of which the seventh was a submission that the respondent had, in contraven-tion of section 17(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1982,

make oral representations. That subsection provided that

any local government elector may attend before the auditor and make objections — (a) as to any matter in respect of which the auditor could take action under section 19 or 20 below ... and by section 19(4): "Any person who has made an objection under section 17(3)(a) above and is aggreed by a decision of an auditor . . . may (a) not later than six weeks after he has been notified of the decision, require the auditor to state in writing the reasons for his decision; and (b) appeal against the decision to the [High Court] and on any such appeal the court shall have the like powers in relation to the item of account to which the objection

In Lloyd and Others v Mc-Mahon ([1987] AC 625, 662), where section 20 of the 1982 Act had been in issue, Lord Justice Woolf had commented that the reference to an objector having to attend, in section 17(3), did not mean that the auditor was required to hear oral observations; and both in the Court of Appeal and in the House of Lords the councillors' complaint, that they had not been offered an oral hearing, had

applied for the declaration . . . ".

failed. Further it was now plain that Mr Judge had been expressly informed of his statutory right to appeal under section 19(4) of

distinction between an elector's rights of appeal under sections 19 and 20: so that in this connection the respondent was able to rely not only on the judgment of Lord Justice Woolf (at p676) but also on those of Lord Justice Lawton (at p645) and Justice Lawton (at p645). and Lord Justice Dillon (at p653) to arguing that Mr Judge should in any event have pro-ceeded under section 19(4) in-stead of by way of judicial

In summary, therefore, it appeared that (1) judicial review was on the facts an inappropriate remedy; (2) one of Mr Judge's points, relating to the solicitors' fee, had already been litigated; (3) be had, when applying for leave, failed to make full disclosure of material facts - in particular, that he had deliberately chosen not to avail himself of his statutory avenue of appeal; (4) there was no possible substance in his complaints, so that be would suffer no injustice if leave were set aside; and (5) it was a material factor that while proceedings for judicial review were pending, the audit of the council for the material year could not be

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For all those reasons, there would be an order setting aside the leave to move granted by Mr Justice Simon Brown, with an order for costs, not to be enforced without the leave of the court.

Solicitor: Mr Anthony Arthur Child.

the Act. For present purposes Member of company

Association Football Club Ltd

become a member of a company was a "person who agrees to become a member" within section 22(2) of the Companies Act 1985, with the result that on his name being entered in the company's register of members he became a member of the company without an antecedent contract for membership be-

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Fox, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Nicholls) so held in a reserved judgment on December 21 when allowing an appeal against an order of Mr Michael Wheeler, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division, whereby he struck out a petition in relation to the affairs of the company on the ground that the

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SUPER SECRETARIES

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SWIMMING

Wisdom of

desert

island trip

questioned

By Steven Downes

Pive of Britain's leading swim-mers set off at the weekend for a two-week racing and training visit to a small island in the

tudian Ocean. But some of their coaches have been left behind, disappointed that they were not

disappointed that they were not consulted about the trip.

The British party includes Nick Gillingham, the Olympic silver medal winner. Kevin Boyd, Tim Jones, Kathy Read and Karen Mellor, all of whom competed in Scout. Their destination was Reunion Island, a small French territory more than 400 miles from Madagascar, where a three-day international meeting is to be staged from Wednesday. The swimmers will then stay on for raining until January 9.

mers will then stay on for training until January 9.

Arrangements for the trip were finished only recently, while coaches to two of the



Andries: has turned a beating to his own advantage

British boxing's forgotten man has got himself another world title chance

call him The Rock. He was not as good as The Sugarman or The Marvelons One, that was for sure; nor, according to The Hitman's friend The Iceman, would be ever be as fast as The Lone Star Cobra. But a round of sparring with him was like hitting granite for three min-utes. So the name stack, which was just as well for The Rock: when enrolling in American gyms it does not pay to introduce yourself as Dennis, from Hackney.

The circumstances by which Dennis "The Rock" Andries pined the Kronk gym in Detroit are musual even by the fickle standards of the fight game. In March, 1987, Andries, then the World Box-ing Council light-heavyweight champion, put his title on the line against Thomas "The an" Hearns. The contest was in Detroit, where Hearns is so big they have an annual Thomas Hearns Day.

Andries was expected to see and did. But he was too brave for his own good. British viewers saw him bounced off the canvas four times in taking one of the worst beatings ered in the price-ring. When the referee stopped the bout in the tenth round at

since theirs was the territorial

forwards or Lozowski took too

much upon bimself in mid-field, mindful no doubt of the

inexperience of his colleagues.

'But Miniban as well as Oti

would have profitted from a

have accepted a penalty kick

at goal from point-blank range

when the score stood at 16-9

As it was Crawford kicked a

tain, David) was penalised in a

good return to duty, made the

break which, with help from

Minihan, sent Lozowski over

but Pilgrim's conversion left

show with

McGuffie

By Alan Lorimer

Boxing Day mgby in Scotland features several important fix-tures, among them the annual match between Edinhargh

them a single point adrift.

sumed, could look forward to retirement, perhaps an occasional job as inter-rounds summarizer for the BBC, and maybe even an extra nought in the family bank account.

Desire which was born from defeat

But he never came back. Instead he hitched a ride downtown to the Kronk and anded an interview with Hearns's trainer, Emmanuel Steward. "Teach me how to box," he told Steward, who agreed, and since then Andries has gone unbeaten. In February, at the age of 36, he will box Tony Willis, of California, for the world light-heavy-weight championship vacated by The Sugarman himself.

When Andries turned up unexpectedly in Britain last week he took a little of the East Side to the East End. The man who brought flared trousers and a Caribbean-Cockney brogne to Press conferences was wearing leathers, a US army haircut and an accent to

"Here's where we talk," he

subway to the gny sellin' candy on the corner." Rarely, if ever, has the sweetshop outside Seven Sisters tube station been thus described. The first British world

champion to seek a permanent home in American rings was Jack "Kid" Berg in the early 1930s. When Berg stepped off the boat, Ray Arcel, the legendary New York trainer, took one look and said: "If that's Kid Berg you can send him back - he looks like a girl He'll get mudered."

Like Berg then, Andries persevered, despite a hostile reception at the Kronk. He recalls: "I went down thereand everyone was saying they'd do to me what Tommy Hearns did. They were calling me an old man, saying they'd knock me out. I said: 'Okay, you get your gloves and I'll get

thing about the Krenk: if the boys don't get you the heat will. I like the heat. Pretty soon those boys were busted up and stitched up in so many ices they couldn't rememb them all. After that they called me The Rock." Andries refers darkly to

"dirty, stinking things going

Hearns. "Before the fight I well out there" - the cursory saw this man Hearns getting treated like he was the cham-. pion. I was champion of the clubs; the bouts with local would and I'm getting treated heroes and the home town like the guy who carries the decisions which followed; the

"For my sparring partners I had a drag addict, a drunkard and a burn. I was thinking, 'either I'm too damn good or these gays are stiffs'. I came to the conclusion they were stiffs. They didn't know their butts from their heads."

Journeyman earns place among elite

Unlike Hearns, Andries was not born with natural boxing talent; nor, like the last "Rock", Rocky Marciano, does he have a punch like the right hand Marciano would stroduce to opponents as Sazie Q". Andries had only journeyman's tools but with pride and determination managed to carve himself a niche

Thus the long road which led to Detroit took Andries on a tour of boxing's mean-streets and the land which spawns them: emigration from the Caribbean as a boy - "I didn't

amateur career, the initiation in Britain's small halls and prospects who fell by the wayside and the part-time managers who left them there

There are thousands of boxers out there and how many get to the top?" he says.
"They finish boxing and go back on the nine-to-five or into trouble. But how many managers do you see in a big house and a fast car? It ain't right. I'm the man, I'm the bread-

vinner, and without me no-And so to the pay-off: another shot at the title; the chance to become only the second Briton after Lloyd Honeyghan to win back a world championship; but another bout Andries is expected to lose, Willis being young and unbeaten.

Andries smiles: "One-track mind, that's me. I'm on a mission and there's no way I'm going to mess it up. I've never seen Willis, I don't want to see Willis, All I know is ... Willis min't The Rock."

Bristolian

goodwill

goes a mite

too far

By Peter Bills

Like the Three Wise Men. Bristol were in a generous mood

at Strady Park on Saturday.
Such profiligacy might have been
festively appropriate but it
handed Llanelli a ridiculously
easy victory, their ninth in

Bristol made so many self-

induced mistakes that Llanelli scored to tries. Three of them were gathered like Christmas goodies by the young open side flank forward, Iwan Jones, who

was little known outside Bangor University a year ago. But the view of the Llanelli coach, Gareth Jenkins that Jones is now ready for international

rugby was brought vividly to life. His pace and determ-ination, firm tackling and ubiq-

uitous support play were

Bristol made a bad start, conceding 12 points in the first

12 minutes. They never recovered but truely reached their nadir in a ten-minute spell either side of half-time when

Poor Jeffrey, his nerves shot

to pieces by one catastrophic

error was at fault in three of the

four. When Jonathan Davies hoisted a speculative kick down

field no one was within 20 yards of Jeffrey. But he aimed an ugly kick at the ball, missed com-pletely and collapsed in a heap of ignominy as Setaro dribbled

mistake by the full back gave Llanelli a five-yard scrum from which Phil Davies scored. And

two minutes into the second half

Carwyn Davies scored after brushing aside Jeffrey's ineffec-

Bristol's only piece of fortune was that Llanelli missed six

was than Labell missed six conversions and two penalties. Carwyn Davies started by adroitly guiding two touchline conversions between the posts but then lost his rhythm totally.

Jonathan Davies was not much better but the try he scored ten

minutes from the end was as

sive kick, allowing Llanelli to counter-attack. Morgan found

top speed on the right but Davies's pace on the outside loop to catch his wing and take

the scoring pass was exceptional.

SCORERS: Lienelli: Tries: 1 Jones (3), P Davies (2), Morgan, May, Setaro, C Davies, J Davies, Conversione: C Davies (2), J Davies (2), Bristot: Penetty goal: Honor

(2), J Davies (2), Dessair Persons grandings, Hogg.
LLAMELLE S Bowling: A Morgan, N Device, O Setaro, C Davies; J Davies, J Griffiths; R Evitris, O Pox. S Gale (rep. A Buchanan), P Mey, R Comelius, G Jones, P Davies, I Jones, BRISTOL: P Jettrey; P Hull, R Knibbe, J Watson, A Hodges: S Hogg, J Davies; A Sharp, O Palmer, J Doubledey, M Skuse, A Blackmore, A Dur, P Collings, W Hons.

bright as any Christmas star. Jeffrey, poor chap, started it by missing touch with a defen-

on to score.

Lianelli acored four tries.

Jonathan Rendall

while coaches to two of the swimmers. Fred Furniss and Fred Kirby, were with the Amateur Swimming Association's team at the World Cup meetings in North America.

Neither was consulted about the swimmers taking part and the swimmers taking part, and both had reasons to question the wisdom of such an expedition at this stage of the winter.

Kirby, the coach to Read, the

country's leading backstroker, had arranged a training camp for his Norwich Penguins club in Florida in the new year, which the swimmer will now miss. Since her return from Seoul, Kirby has supervised merely five of Read's training

Mellor, the Sheffield-based freestyler, has been unable to race since the beginning of this month, because of illness, and her coach, Furniss, has some doubt whether she will be fit chough to race next week.

The group was arranged at

short notice as a replacement for the aborted tour to Perth, the aborted tour to Perth, Australia, where the third meeting in the World Cup was cancelled. The main purpose of that tour was for warm weather training for some of Britain's elite, and to learn as much as possible about Perth, which is to be the venue of the world championships in 1991.

A training camp on an Indian Ocean desert island, however, lacks such purpose. Even though all the swimmers' coaches have been asked to provide detailed schedules for the period, io the

schedules for the period, in the light of the criticism which followed the pre-Olympic training camp, there must be concern about whether such an alternative camp will be time well

No staff coaches are available for the trip, which is an added

HOCKEY

Foretaste of things to come

By Sydney Friskin

Although the start of the county championship is still two months away, Lancashire and Cheshire will have an early trial of strength in the traditional Boxing Day match today on the premises of the Liverpool Sefton Club at Aighurth.

The teams are playing for the Boxing Day Trophy, the destiny of which will be decided on the same format as last year. Games will be played at three levels, veterans, under-21 and seniors and the side with the highest tally of points will be declared

the winners.

As always, the senior match should fulfil the usual expectations of keen competition, friendly rivalry and much conviviality along the sidelines. Malcolm Wilkinson, who be-tween 1979 and 1982 made 25 tween 1979 and 1982 made 25 appearances for England, is leading Cheshire. They are not short of experience with the Welsh international, Ashcroft, in goal, Lawton and Peters at full back. Sam Crutchley is at right half and his brother, Bob, will join forces with Pitcock and Greene in attack, Grimley, however, will not be playing this ever, will not be playing this year for Cheshire.

Lancashire, determined to turn the tables on their rivals, will be without Badley, a tried and trusted hand who is injured but they are relying on younger blood represented by Ferns of Hounslow, Atherton from Dur-ham and Dalley. Nicholson and Makin will support Ferns in their attack.

The annual match at Chean between the President's XI and the club first team wil be played tomorrow, starting at 11.0. Lan Taylor, Great Britain's goalkeeper who has retired from international competition, will join the BBC team in their Join the BBC team in their television coverage of the Glenfiddieh tudoor Tournament in Glasgow on January. 7 and 8.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Zendejas wins it for Oilers

Cleveland, Ohio, (Reuter) — The Houston Oilers pipped the Cleveland Browns 24-23 in the first play-off game of the Nat-ional Football League on Sat-urdsy. Tony Zendejas's 49-yard field goal, with only two minutes left, was the winning margin in the American Foothall Conference (AFC) wild card game, which was punctuated by controversial calls by the

Officials.
Zendejas's effort gave Houston an apparently comfortable eight-point lead at 24-16 hut the Browns came back to within one point through Pagel, their sub-stitute quarterback, completing five consecutive passes. His last completion in that series was a two-yard toss to Webster Slaughter with just 3t seconds remaining.

RUGBY UNION: HESITANT START LEADS TO AN UPHILL STRUGGLE FOR WASPS AND AN AFTERNOON OF DISCOMFORT FOR THEIR ENGLAND MAN Oti back on a wing and a prayer for better things in store

By David Hands

Amid the interest which surrounded the relurn, at Roehampton oo Saturday, of Chris Oti, the fact that Wasps lost a maich they could and should have won tended to be hidden. That, though, was of lesser coocern to the gathering of coaches, divisional and national, who were there both to watch Oti and evaluate for the England under-21 team some of the younger talent on

To take the England wing first: it was scarcely a distinguished comeback from the man who will forever be tagged with the try treble he scored against Ireland io his second international last March and for whom expectation will always be preternaturally high. But it was satisfactory in that Oti took several hard tackles and showed no rejuctance to take on opponents to close-cootact

situations. He damaged a knee ligameot in training back in September and took the field with both knees and hamstrings well strapped - a leg-acy of his game for Loodon against Munster in October, when he believes he did oot protect the limb sufficiently and left himself open to a recurrence. "I just want to play several matches now stretch my legs a bit and work up to match fitness," he said, becoming interesting crept expressing the hope that away in a plethora of pen-

Saracens on New Year's Eve. 35 in all, most of them for That wish will no doubt be gratified and it must be hoped that his colleagues then can work room for him in a way. that Saturday's team did not. Wasps lost by a goal, a try and two penalty goals to two goals and a penalty with a team. missing two-thirds of its regular components. Park, it is true, were short of five players but they were completely outplayed in the second half by

some youngsters who should

serve Wasps well in years to The more distressing, there-fore, that their efforts did not the Wasps captain should bring victory and in retrospect they will regret the concession of 13 points in the first 16 minutes. Pilgrim missed touch rather than going for the try, and the Park tide flowed back, since his side had still to score Hunter, Wyles and Crawford sending Ryan over unopposed with just 67 seconds gone. second penalty when the hard-When the Wasps scrum was working Richard Pegler disrupted, (brother of the divisional capseverely Woodhouse scrambled over for a second try and every- tackle and that proved inst thing pointed to a happy enough. Young who had a

Christmas present for the home club. But that was almost the full extent of Park's game. The as play entered injury-time Wasps scrum tightened, but Pilgrim's conversion left though it was oever dominant; they came to enjoy the better of the lineout and scrambled around more effectively in the loose. Pilgrim ran on to Lozowski's chip for a try which he converted, to go with his opening penalty, and it was 13-9 at the interval.

But then a game that was Wasps will choose him against alties. Nick Cousins awarded

better use of the advantage law would have helped. Certainly it would have benefited Wasps

Fall gay: Oti (left), who showed no reluctance for physical contact, meets Park's challenge

Hindmarch stands out in ponderous performance

SCORIERS: Rosslyn Park: Thies: Ryan, Woodhouse. Conversion: Crawford. Penalties: Crawford (2). Waspe: Tries: Pigrim (2). Penalty: Pigrim (2). Penalty: Pigrim. RossLyn Park: R Crawford; S Hunter, K Wyles, A Dent, O Oaborne; S Smith, A Woodhouse; S Henderson, S Glichrist, J Reid, O Kesting, S Foulds, S Dest, M Ryan, N McBain.
WASPS: S Pigrim; P Minihan, P Young, R Lozowski, C Ott; G Gregory, O Chouse; G Holmes, A Skarnons, I Dunston, I Amstrong, S Easton, C Bickle, M Rigby, R Pegier.
Reference: N Cousins (London). Nottingham ... Headingley..... Lineen on

Penetration.
Nottingham moved the ball ponderously to the wings where Headingley's ample and ob-durate defence queued to tackle

Academicals and the Cooptimists at Raeburn Place and three important games in the Scotch Leaf Border League.

Edinburgh Academicals are fielding what is virtually a full Headingley, sorely deprived

over Jed-Forest et Riverside on Saturday, Gala face the joint leaders, Melrose, at Netherdale in one of three interesting Border League matches this afternoon. Hawick, who put Melrose to the sword last weekend, are at home to Jed-Ferest and Selkirk and Kelso face each

and Selkirk and Keiso face each other at Philiphaugh.

The Italians, who play three matches in Ireland in the next 10 days, arrive in Belfast today for the opening game against an Ireland under-25 team at Raveohill on Wednesday (George Ace writes). On Saturday they meet Ireland in a full interestional for the first time at international for the first time at Lansdowne Road and play the final game in Cork on Wednesday week against the Combined

Following their 55-6 mauling by the Australians, 10 uncapped players are included in the 24-strong panel with Bettarello, capped 55 times, captain of the SCORERS: Certifif: Tries: G Corde (2). Penalties: M Rayer (2). Bridgend: Try: O Williams. side from the outside half

> half, Michael Bradley, who has been superceded by both Fergus Aherne and Rab Brady in the pecking order for the Lansdowne Road game, leads the under-25 side with Peter

organizatioo, in which Hindmarch was the definitive figure. Hindmarch, aged 23, a product of Uppingham School, stands 6ft 6in, weighs 16 stone and complemented his agility by scoring two tries and showing the mobility which makes him an outstanding prospect.

have been neglected. Byrom, who suffers from not being a goal kicker, confirmed his attributes of courage and cricketers' hands beneath the high ball against Headingley.

metronomic swing of the right boot, reminiscent of Hare, a Nottingham predecessor.
Otherwise, appealing features

Greenwood. HEADINGLEY: O Lowther, A Migchell, S Irving, M. Kirk, M. Joyce; S. Hill, N. Summers; P. Huntsman, P. Soller, A. Machell, N. Hargreeves, N. Green, H. Barratt, M. Pepper, K. Higgins. Referec A MacGregor (Yorkshire).

By Alan Lorimer North and Midlands 7

Edinburgh 16 After recording their 29th vic-tory over North and Midlands at Cupar on Saturday, Edin-burgh have set the scene for next week's McEwan's inter district championship title decider against South. But it was a subdued performance by the defending champions, whose victory, though decisive enough in points was accused only but

in points, was assured only by four penalties from their right wing Peter Steven. North's plan to "thwart the Edinburgh back row moves", was executed with such efficiency by their breaksway trio that the Scotland flanker, Finlay Calder can rarely have been so match. Where the Edinburgh pack did have the advantage was in the set scrum from which came their only touch down, a

push over try credited to their No. 8, Kevin Rafferty. North, who were nampered by an ankle injury in the first minute to their centre. John Thomson took an carry lead when their stand-off half, Calum-

MacGregor followed up his own blindside kick to win the touch down. The Gordonian extended North's lead with a drop goal before Edinburgh scored a push over try. Steven edged them level with a penalty and then capitalised on Edinburgh's second helf forward account with ond half forward pressure with three further locks, scoress North and Midleads: Try: MacGregor, Drap goat MacGregor, Edin-burgh, Try: Ratledy, Panalies: Stoven

MecGregor, Drep gost MacGregor, Edinhargir, Try: Ratisety, Panalises: Shown
(4).

MORTH AND MEDIANNS: & Spowert
(Dundeed HSFP), B Inhead (String
Courty), & Edwards (Boroughruir), J
Thocason (Paricelly), M. Crose (Dundernina), M.
Alingbam (Heriot's FP), G. Mackenzie
(Highland), M. Scott (Dunlernine), J
Scobbie (Gasgow Acade), S. Sell (Highlead), I Rankin (Howe of Pile), J Bryce
(Heriot's FP), H Elwards (Boroughruir), D
Michve (Edinburgh Acads),
EDHSLRidit's Daughas (Boroughruir), P
Saves (Heriot's FP), S. Hastings
(Watsoniane), S. Lissen (Boroughruir), M
Debask (Boroughruir), D Wyle (Saveart's-Melville), M. Robertson
(Boroughruir), D Sule (Edinburgh Acads),
B Beyern (Boroughruir), I Mille (Saveart's-Melville), M. Robertson
(Boroughruir), J Wichardson
(Boroughruir), J Wichardson
(Boroughruir), J Calder (Heriot's FP), F
Calder (Saverat's-Melville)

At Old Anniesland, the for-

• At Old Anniesland, the former Scotland full back, Peter Dods scored 14 of South's points in their 26-10 win over Glasgow to hoist his district total to 612.

Birkenhead Park go from awful to worse By Michael Stevenson

appeared twice in a forthright

Liverpool St Helens..... 59 Birkenhead Park To those of us trained in extra-

sensory perception, it seemed quite likely, after five minutes at quite likely, after five minutes at Moss Lane on Saturday, that Birkenhead Park might have problems. The LSH captain, Wellens, hoisted high and the ball bounced off the head of a Park player, who was circling anxiously beneath it.

Although Birkenhead Park are competing in a kague four grades lower than LSH, memories of a once great club will he

ories of a once great club will be erased by many more perfor-mances of such ineptitude. If any good is to come from this one, it is the renewed possibility of a merger with New Brighton, in which case the Wirral would possess one senior club, instead

of two struggling ones.

Surprisingly three players emerged from the wreckage with considerable credit. The flanker, Chidley, played well for the losers, as did Kolokotorni at full back and Jackson in the centre. Hansvan, a valued recruit to LSH this winter, and once the

One admirable and interesting member of the LSH side was the third of the Buckton broththe third of the Buckton brothers, Peter, a magnificent flanker who should be in the England pre-international squad. His brother, John, a centre who plays for Saracens is in the squad and Nick a fast flanker, the necessary with distinction also performs with distinction.

One wholly satisfying spin-off of
the game, following prolonged and heavy rain, is that the expenditure of almost £20,000 on new drainage at Moss Lane has been a wooderful

SCORERS: Liverpool St Huters: Tries: Haraven (4), Shimed (2), Harner (2), Roy-Askew and Devies. Conversions: Askew (6), Pennity, Askew.
LIVERPOOL ST HELENS: P Hamer; S Hanaven, B Wellens, M Devies, J Stinwell: A Askew, O Jones; P Robbins, T Melia, G Chutch, J O'Drecool, M Hele, D Conald, N Bueldon, N Roy.

REPARTMENT P. ARK. P. Kohlengroot, J.

Conais, N Sucreton, N House BRINGENHEAD PARK: P Kolokotroni; J Welth (rep: A Francia), I Stanton, L Jackson, H Devenport; J McHugh, M McNaly; J Calms, E Thornes, M Stavens, M Berson, M Magse, P McCrave, C' Childio, P Tarleton, Referec F Howard (Liverpool Society).

Bridgend caught napping by Rayer By Gerald Davies He had done well with his two Cardiff ...

Bridgend ...

After failing to beat Bridgend in four scasons, it was high time Cardiff sought revenge. But this did not seem to be the likely scason to do so since they have already lost half of their 22 games and with very little promise of better things to

Bridgend, with a strong squad, have been looking to sei themselves up for a goodish scuson, but, after a promising more. Their recent huge defeat we Neath showed their squad is iot as strong as they might

On Saturday they had enough good individual parts but they lid not add up to a team and ouch up a victory by Iwo tries nd two penalties to a try against team notoriously thought of as neir bogey side.

Included in Bridgend's squad Adedayo Adebayo, the Eng-ind schoolboy wing, who has tready won 12 caps at various vels. He hopes to go to the inversity College in Swansca ad last week had been training Bridgend. He had his first ning on Saturday. In the end r him, it was merely that - an sting - for he had very little to

All in all, it was oot a good me. Too many errors and decision stopped any easy w or gradual build-up of omentum. There was a good al of disruptive, spoiling play tich, driven to extreme, used the referee to send three ivers to the sin bin.

> Sareth Williams and Rowley re the first to go and mediately on Williams's ren for Bridgend, Kawulok had

to take some time out to cool

handed catching in the lineout as, in fact, had Rowley for the home team. But the most effnome team. But the most eff-ective player, and the one who eventually made the difference, was Rayer at full back for Cardiff.

He always looked capable of doing something to catch the opposition napping. On one occasion he did so mischievously.

After he had first put Cardiff After he had hist put Caroni into a lead with a penalty, his side was awarded another opportunity to extend this lead. While Bridgend's backs were turned, expecting a shot at goal, and started to retire, Rayer took a quick tap and ran. He beat one man and when held by the second found Cordle on his

Towards the end of the half a good platform set at a scrum near the visitors' line gave Edwards the chance to pack up and feed Giles who ran to the line and at the last moment presented the supporting Cordle with his second try.

There were only rare touches of enthusiasm in the second half, though Cardiff had the greater urgency. Rayer kicked another penalty before Owain Williams forced his way over from a scrum near Cardin's line for the visitors' single score.

CARDIFF: M Rayer: G Cordie, O Evana, M Rang, S Ford; M Dacoy, R Glass: D Young, I Greenstade, J Whitstoot, G Roberts, M Parry, M Rowley, T Crothers, M Edwards. BRIDGEND: A Parry; A Adebeyo, M Hall, C Bragshaw, R Diplock, A Williams, S Roach (rep: K Elirs); M Griffiths, H Bavan, P Sawards, M Budd, P Krewidok, G Williams, O Bryant (rep. W Hall), O Williams, Retirect R G Davies (Punclawdd)

Michael Stevenson's schools rugby column is on page 22.

By Michael Austin

Charity began at home for Nottingham, whose philan-thropy enabled a spirited but half-strength Headingley team to escape from Beeston with respectability in defeat on Saturday.

Tactical ineptitude was the basis of Nottingham's carriers.

basis of Nottingham's curious malaise as they failed to rec-ognize that a much superior pack was better equipped to grind Headingley into sub-mission than a back division without Hartley and devoid of

them. Over-complication of midfield moves, misplaced passes and fumbles all contributed to Nottingham's mish-mash of mistakes.

strength side for today's match with the Cooptimists who inwith the Coopinnists who in-clude Boroughmuir's two New Zealanders, Sean Lineen, at centre and the No. 8, Chris Tregaskis, Lineen will play alongside the new Scotland B centre, Crawford McGuffie, in Feast for Steven as an exciting three-quarter line.

After their parrow 18-17 win Edinburgh win

Ireland's World Cup scrum Russell, of Ulster, as his half of possession, struggled in the scrums and foundered on Not-tingham's major asset, lineout dogged persistence and refusal to submit, much needed qualties in their quest for promo-tion to the Courage first division. Recent emphatic wins over London Welsh and Londoo Irish have galvanized their hopes. Their try, scored after Not-tingham had led by 18 points at half time, was the best of the match played in perfect con-ditions. Barratt, a lithe lock,

Nottingham are brimming with 11 Midlands Division play-ers this season but, ironically, two of their most consistent performers, Hindmarch and Byrom, a Cumbrian full back.

appeared twice in a forthright move bringing a try for Higgins and offering merciful relief from Nottingham's lateral running.

SCORERS: Nottingham: Tries: Hindeneric (2), Rees. Commenture: Hodginson (2), Rees. Commenture: Hodginson (2), Readingley: Try: Higgins. Commenture: Tries: Hodginson (2), Readingley: Try: Higgins. Commenture: Tries: Hodginson, S. Panalty goals: Mostan, Withord, I Hunter; S Hodginson, S. Worrat; A. Sheppard, B. Moora, G. Mosses, P. Cook, O. Kaye (rap: O. Parsonson). O Hindmarch, G. Rees. M. Greenwood. Hodgkinson also served Not-tingham well by landing five of his six place kicks with a

Isles, showed some of his allure in scoring his side's first try. He received the ball 40 metres out in a one to one situation, left his man for dead with a jagged side-step and sanntered in un-

investment

From Iain Macleod St Anton, Austria

Celebrating the festival of St Niklass had added significance this year for the close-knit community of the tiny Swiss village of Elm: Vreni Schneider, the favourite daughter of these parts, appears destined to fulfil her cherished ambition to become World Cup overall champion.

Mcanwhile, in Western

champion.

Meanwhile, in Western Switzerland, Pirmin Zurbriggen spent a quiet, family Christmas content in the knowledge that, barring injury, his fourth men's title will again find its home in the Valais.

Which only goes to prove that those critics who were quick to herald a Swiss decline after a disappointing performance at the Wioter Olympics in Calgary, have, not for the first time, been proved wrong.

lar, have been in majesuc form. Carole Merle, of France, may have won the opening race in Schladming, but each of the seven races held since has had a Swiss on the top rung of the raction.

swiss on the top rung of the podium.
Schneider has been outstanding. She incurred terrible injuries towards the end of last scason after a fall in the downfull at Aspen. However, she has returned physically stronger and technically improved, and has won the last four slalom and giant skalom races.

giant slalom races.

Given that she also picked up 25 points for winning the combination event at Altenmarkt, Schneider's lead in the overall standings (60 ahead of Ulrike Meier, of Austria) is not surveising

not surprising.
Her compatriot, Michela Figini, has been consistent and looks ready to add to her laurels at February's world champion-ships in Vail. But it has been the return to form of the downhill world ehampion, Maria Walliser, which has given more cause for satisfaction. The photogenic Walliser con-

tinues to be a target for mil-lionaire film-makers. She performed dismally during the crucial stage of last season and there were fears that she was past her best. The downhill win at Altenmarkt disproved this.

A fascinating battle is being conducted in the men's events. Zorbriggen has still to win a this season but, by virtue of first, second and third places in, respectively, the combination, downhill and sla-lom events last week in St Anton, he has secured a 30-point advantage in the overall

Yet even Zurbriggen, who has won every title on offer, seems to be reaching a stage where the prospect of hurtling down the side of a mountain — at least compensively — no longer holds the same attraction.

It was hardly evident during the course of December but, in an interview published last Wednesday in the Zurich newspaper, Sport, Zurbriggen admit-ted that motivating himself was becoming more difficult.

to be Marc Girardelli, of Luxemburg. His non-participa-tion amid allegations of cheating hills did not enhance his prospects. The potential loss of 50 points now looks more costly

than ever. Helmut Hoeflehner, of Austria, surprisingly heads the downhill standings and the na-tion which has been searching for a worthy successor to Franz Klammer now waits with bated breath to see whether the Christmas illusion will be shattered when the proceedings resume in Garmisch-Partenkirchen on FriAustralian coach spearheads the challenge against Rugby League's aristocrats



Local club on top of the world

hey are proud of what they have achieved in Castleford, to the extent that they took umbridge when a newspaper article referred to their rugby league ground at Weldon Road as "old brick and tin", and to the club coach, Darryl van de Velde, as "bald as a ball."

What disrespectful way is that to talk about a man who has taken a side, which has never won the championship, to the top of the league? Castleford entertain Hull Kingston Rovers today as the unbeaten leaders, heading the game's so-called wealthy aristocrats, Wigan and Leeds.

In point of fact, van de Velde admits that both the ground and his head of hair have seen better days. The club rarely has. There have been oyous occasions of course: successive Challenge Cup triumphs in 1969 and 1970, and again as recently as 1986. But no championship.

That most recent Wembley win lifted the spirits of Castleford's 35,000 population, trying to recover from the ravages of the miners' strike. The coalfields are now closed. The smoke belching out across the town comes only from domestie chimney stacks and the focus of employment has switched to the chemical plant of Hicksons International

Hicksons has not only been involved in helping to re-stimulate the local economy. It is also the main

"At the outsel three years ago our involvement was no more than a gesture of goodwill," David Law, the company's Press spokesman, said, "It was never intended to be a real commercial investment. I think we are on a winner now though."

By popular consent - that is in the black and amber bedecked pubs in the town - it is van der Velde who has turned the club into a winner. Men who normally expect a receipt if they pay a compliment, speak in reveren-tial terms of van der Velde. The rugged, hard and bent-nosed Australian coach, aged 37, insists that it is the Castleford is a town undergoing social changes.

Its rugby league club is enjoying a new way of life too. Mick Cleary reports on its attempt to

players who have turned themselves respect and he has done just that. It is in to winners. He neither wants, nor expects, credit for it.

According to him, he has only helped point the way. Once the players became aware of the direction they were meant to take, they took off

Van der Velde, who left his thriving financial consultancy business in Brisbane at the start of this season to pursue his dream of becoming a top coach, does not beat about the bush. He says what he thinks. He has no time for shoddy performances, on or off the field. Even in an A team match 10 days ago he cursed his reserve hooker, Graham Southernwood, aged 17, for petulant ill-discipline which cost his side a two-point penalty. In the next breath he was praising him as a future international.

Just after his arrival he was surprised to find two players hobbling off by themselves to the local casualty ward for treatment. He went straight to the chairman and insisted on private care and attention for all his players. It was duly done.

Last week Castleford's Australian full back, Garry Belcher, was treated by a Harley Street specialist for a hernia, even though the club, which was unlikely to get another game from him before his contract ran out, could have sent him back home. Van der Velde has instilled that sort of mutual loyalty.

The elub's record single-season points scorer, Boh Beardmore, who is sharing a benefit this year with his twin brother, the Great Britain hooker, Kevin Beardmore, is Castleford born and bred. He is not a man easily impressed. Yet he says of Van der Velde: "He had to earn our

win the championship for the first time

But Darryl has made us all more professional about our own game." Van der Velde is no gruff, megaphone-voiced tub thumper. He is assertive but in a reasoned, intellectual way. He explains rather than exhorts. His whole credo is based on an American philosopher, Richard Bach, whose fictional tome, Jonathan Livingston Seagull, is an allegorical study of self-achievement. It sounds an unlikely backdrop to the blood and

no good just bawling at someone and thinking that will make them work

harder. It is more complex than that.

Championship leaders

	_		_		F A	
Castleford	10	9	1	0	263 133	15
Leeds	13	8	0	4	273 183	18
Widnes	11	6	0	3	306 129	16
St Helens	12	7	1	4	261 251	15

bludgeon world of rugby league. No one now doubts its validity.

"I know it all sounds very pretentious but, believe me, it is so true," van der Velde s is that one should always aim for the best. The only hindrance to improvement is the South. History proves just that. It was said that the amazing swimming records set by Johnny Weismueller were unbeatable. Now 12-year-old-girls are beating them. The key to it all is in the mind. But once the players accept that they can do it all themselves."

Hence the 10 commandments engraved on the dressing room wall. Samples. Winners make it happen; losers let it happen. Winners make commitments; losers make promises. Winners thrive; losers just survive.

Fine words will get you only so far however, particularly in Yorkshire. Van der Velde has done his stuff on the training field as well. Or, to be more precise, in front of his video

He has insisted that each match, reserve games included, should be videoed. Then, aided by a ream of statistic sheets compiled during the game he writes a detailed analysis of each player's performance. He then grades them out of 10. Each player, m private, does the same. At Tuesday training he called at three unsuspecting names to read out their

The attention to detail was picked np from a trip van de Velde made to the University of Hawaii 18 months ago. In his opinion the Americans were without peer when it came to the systematic and scientific appraisal of sport. He wanted in. He was only there for a week. At first he was rebuffed. After all he had not been mvited. But van de Velde pestered the Hawaii personnel until they became more impressed than irritated by his continued presence.

Van der Velde never confers with other coaches. He has oo idea whether. his methods - brutal, self-correction and improvement - would find approval elsewhere. They have in Castleford, with attendances no by some 20 per cent. What was once renowned as a caudy floss side who were pretty in parts but who lacked the solid core, now have the second best defensive record in the land. It is all based on a rigorously pragmatic approach. Mistakes are highlighted in the weekly encounter session.

There is still some way to go, however. Van der Velde had instructed his players on the debilitating effects of alcohol and tobacco. Yet, two days before their last game, there was Kevin Beardmore, cigarette in hand, enjoying a pint with his mates. One withering look from van der Velde said it all. Beardmore grinned sheepishly. Some bad habits die harder than others.

Softer winds may deny favourite record in classic

YACHTING

The 44th Sydney-Hobart race,
Australia's 630-nautical mile
offshore classic, due to start at
1 pm today, will probably be
sailed in mostly lighter winds
that will not give the odds-on
pre-race favourite, Windward
Passage II, the opportunity to
break the race record.
The race forecaster. Dr Roger

break the race record.

The race forecaster, Dr Roger Badham, predicted that the race, to be contested by 124-entries, would start in a 15-knot nor easter, the wonderful Sydney summer sea breeze reinforcing a gradient northerly wind that has made Sydney extremely humid for the past few days.

But on the first night, that would give way to a fresh would give way to a fresh southerly, putting the fleet hard southerly, putting the fleet hard on the wind and certainly sorting out the men from the boys. The southerly change could reach a good 30 knots, its strength depending on a low pressure system forming to the east of Bass Strait.

While the change would be vigorous, Badham estimated that the wind strength would ease after six hours and a high pressure system moving to

pressure system moving to-wards Bass Strait (between Tasmania and mainland Australia) tomorrow might bring light winds that could split the fleet.

the fleet.

The big yachts could gain a winning break; the smaller ones could be locked out in lighter air on the wrong side of the high. This situation will certainly suit Windward Passage II, the hi-tech composite plastic Frers-design maxi owned by Rod Muir, of Sydney, but deny her the chance of beating the race record, of two days 14 hours 36 minutes and 56 seconds set by the American, Jim Kilroy's Kialoa, in 1975 in ideal reaching and running ideal reaching and running

Windward Passage II, launched earlier this year and winner of class A at the Kenwood Cup in Hawaii, is now achieving her target speeds in all conditions and is being extremely well sailed.

She won all three races of the AWA Ocean Racing Champ-ionship preceding the Hobart race on corrected time as well as taking line honors last week, with excellent starts and sound upwind speed and pointing ability.

In the race to be first to Hobart - a long standing dream of Muir, a radio entrepreneur who spent his youth in Tasma-nia — her only real opponent is Syd Fischer's nine-year-old Frers-design Ragamuffin, which finished second across the line to Sovereign (Bernard Lewis) in

last year's race. A new keel and other modifications earlier this year made her highly competitive in the Kenwood Cup.

Aboard as a principal helms-Aboard as a principal nearly man is Bobby Wilmot, who represented Australia as skipper in the Soling class at the Korean Olympics. Sovereign, which won last year's race on corrected with the street of the street won last year's race on corrected time as well as being first to finish, is not racing this year. She broke her mast in the St Francis Yacht Club's 'Big Boat's series on San Francisco Bay in September and could not gel another in time for the Hobart race. another in time for the Hobart race, so her owner, Bernard Lewis, has decided to keep her in the northern hemisphere to contest the International Class A Yacht Association events — St Thomas, Virgin Islands, in February/March and Newport, Rhode Island, in June.

With the dates for the trials to select the Australian team for the Admiral's Cup in Britain next July/August advanced to late February/early March, the 'grand prix' International Offshore Rule racers are sailing with deadly purpose in the Hobart race.

Hobart race The Farr 50 fractional rig Great News (Dave Forbes/John Calvert-Jones), just over a year old, comfortably won her class.

against hot competition in the Big Boat series and is a strong contender for a win in the Hobart race and a place in the Admiral's Cup team.

Another mid-rating

Admiral's Cup team.

Another mid-rating yacht with a strong chance is Peter Kurts' Farr 44 fractional Madeline's Daughter, from the 1987 Admiral's Cup team, which has been fined with a new keel and rudder and a new rig to be a strong contender for the 1989

The rig, designed by Duncan Van Woerden of Whale Spars who was responsible for the rig of Windward Passage II, is 130lb lighter than the old rig and features a meccano set-style boom of stainless steel which is 15 to 20 per cept lighter than the old one. Madeline's Daughter, with two seconds and a third, is second on points in the AWA series which concludes with the Hobart race.

Another contender for a win. in the Hobart race is Wild Oats, Bob Oatley's four-year-old Farr 43, which has not only a new keel, rudder and rig but Britain's Olympic gold medal winner, Rodney Pattisson, aboard as

principal helmsman.

Patrisson is spending the summer in Australia to prepare Wild. Oats for the Admiral's Cup trials and is getting results. With a fifth, second and fourth, she is third in the AWA series.

Argentine designer to assist Italians

Racul Gardini of Italy has secured the services of the Argentinian yacht designer, German Frens, and the top US helmsman, Paul Cayard, for his Ross writes).

Under the Cap conditions, provided they live in Italy for more than a year before the next cup match — scheduled for 1991 depending on the outcome of the dispute between the New Zealander, Michael Fay and the San Diego Yacht Club in the New York Supreme Court over the last one — Prers would be eligible to design the Italian challenger and Cayard to sail it. Gardini owns Il Moro di Venezia, a Frers design inter-national offshore rule maxi which, with Cayard steering, won its class to the St Francis

Yacht Club's Big Boar series on San Francisco Bay last Il Moro di Venezia beat into second place the newer and potentially faster similar Frers design, Windward Passage II, owned by Rod Muir, of Australia, which had beaten II Moro di

Venezia in the previous regatta, the Kenwood Cup in Hawaii.

The performances of both

Moro di Venezia over the past year have confirmed Frers' domination of the big-yachtoffshore scene. With the new America's Cup class yacht of, 75ft overall being accepted by allthe players for the next America's Cup, his services were obviously much in demand, because of its similarities to his 80ft overall, fractional-rigged IOR maxis. Gardini, whose challenge has

been entered by Campagnia Della Vela, is planning a campaign with a \$35 million budget.
Gabriel Raffianelli will be the
syndicate manager. Adam,
Ostenfeld, the British sailor whoworked for Dennis Conner's winning team in 1987, will also be retained in a managerial role. Gardini intends to build three-yachts during his campaign. He will utilise the services of SP. Systems, on the Isle of Wight, to-

systems, on the isle of Wight, toengineer the composite plastics'
construction systems he intends,
to use to build the yachts. SP
Systems designed the lay-up and
provided materials for the
construction of Windward Passage II — acknowledged, as a breakthrough in a type of yacht where aluminium construction has been accepted as the norm."

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Service Company

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WEIGHTLIFTING

Sofia sacks president: and board for drugs

Sofia, (Reuter) — Hristo Meranzov, president of the Bulgarian weightlifting federation, and his entire 15-member executive board have been dismissed following the disqualification of two Bulgarian lifters from the Olympics for using banned drugs.

The federation announced at a press conference in Sofia on Friday that Meranzov, who is also vice-president of the International Weightlifting Federation and Sport also accepted the decision

The federation announced at a press conference in Sofia on Friday that Meranzov, who is also vice-president of the International Weightlifting Federation, was being replaced by the army general, Vasil Vasilev.

The announcement followed an investigation by the Bulgardian Olympic Committee after

Sport also accepted the decision of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to ban Guenchev and Grablev from international competition for fear users.

SPORTS BOOKS

Contemporary ice time

Ice hockey is a sport that lends itself to statistics and in Gordon Wade the British game has a statistician who is both enthusiastic and accurate.

Our correspondents' reviews of the statistical who is both enthusiastic and accurate.

The second edition of his facts and figures is the mixture much as before and, while some will criticize its concentration on the modern era, it does include a statistical history of the British game, going back to

the early Thirties.

Mesquita on ice hockey

you might need; as well as some, you might not need.
Stewart Roberts has edited.
The lee Hockey Annual for 13 years and this year it receives the ultimate accolade in being designated the Official Year. Book of the British Ice Hockey-Association, it is a compliment. Its main strength lies in its Association. It is a compliment comprehensive coverage of the present revival. Nowhere else is it possible to discover which points for each club, all the clubs by Gordon Wade (obtainable competing in the Heimeken from 297 Salisbury Road, championships, career records the clubs by Gordon Wade (obtainable competing in the Heimeken from 297 Salisbury Road, thampionships, career records of every player who has appeared in the premier division and every other statistical gent.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Barclays League First division

Brentford v Blackpool (11.30)
Bristol R v Wolverhampton (11.30)
Bury v Bristol C
Cardiff v Swanssa (12.0) Chester v WiganChesterfield v Huddersfield ston v Bolton (11.30) ...

Aylesbury v Wycombe
Cheltenham v Newport (11.30)
Enfield v Barnet (11.0)
Fisher v Welting (11.30)
Kettering v Bosson
Macdesheld v Altrincham
Madstone v Sutton Utd
Northwich v Stafford

GM Vauxhall Conference

Runcom v Chorley Telford v Kidderninst Yeovil v Weymouth SMERNOFF (RISH LEAGUE: Ards v Lame; Carrick v Ballymens, Colerane v Bangor; Lintled v Cittionvilla; Newty v Glenavon; Portadown v Diedlery.

HPS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division; Coernarton v South Liverpool; Restwood v Barrow (11.0); Geinsborough v Frickley (11.16); Geisshead v Shepished (2.0; Goole v Worksop (11.0); Horwich v Morecambe; Martine v Southport Method; v Budon; Mossilly v Bengor City; Rhyl v Witton; Stalybridge v Hyda.

SEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier di-vision: Alvechunch v Worcester (11.0); Bedwordt v Leleester Umael (11.0); Crawley v Darthord (11.30); Dorchester v Waterdoville, Dover v Ashlord, Fersham v Waterdoville, Dover v Ashlord, Fersham v Gosport (11.30); Methyr 1yell v Beth; Moor Green v Burton (11.0); Reddisch v Bromsgrove (11.30); VS Rugby v Corby (11.0); Wealdstone v Cambridge City. VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Second di-Vision south Hungartord v Newbury.

SPORT ON TV

CRICKET: C4: 5.05-5.00 pm: England v Australia in the Woman's World Cup Final from Matcourne. FINAL SCORE: BBC1: 4.50-5.05 pm FINAL SCORE: BBC1: 4,50-5.05 pm RACING: C4: 12,50-3 t5 pm: 12,45, 1.15, 1,45, 2.20 and 2.50 races from Recorpton Park. STREET HOCKIET: C4: 11.30 sm-12,00 pm: Serest Warmors v Speedores Titlers in The Tennant's Super National Champion-ships from Leicester.

Second division

Brighton v C Palece (1.30)
Chelsea v Ipswich (12.0)
Hull v Bradford
Leeds v Bleckburn
Leicaster v Bournemouth (11.30)
Oldham v WBA (12.0)
Strategham u Blenkfughten (11.30) Shrewsbury v Birmingham (11.30) . Stoke v Manchester C Sunderland v Barnsley

Fourth division Cartin Givision

Burnley v Wrexham

Cambridge v Dorcaster

Carlisle v Rochdale

Colchester v Peterborough

Darlington v Halflax

Exetter v Hereford (12.0)

Leyton Orient v Tranmere (12.0)

Lincoln v Grimsby (11.30)

Rotherham v Crewe

Scarborough v York Scunthorpe v Hartiepool Torquay v Stockport (11.30)

RUGBY UNION CLUB MATCHES

Aberavon v Neath Beth v Clifton _____Bedford v Old Paulines

Bedford v Old Paulines
Bridgend v Messter
Bristol v Western-super-Mare
Cardiff v Pontypridd
Ebbw Vale v Abertillery
Fylde v Preston G (2.0)
Gals v Melrose (2.0)
Giesgow H/K v Glessgow Acads (2.0)
Gosforth v Northern (2.15)
Hartlepool R v W Hartlepool (2.15)
Hawell v Jed-Forest (2.0)
Kendal v Vale of Lune (2.15)

Lisneill v London Welsh
L Irish v Old Milhillians (2:30)
Morley v Otley (2:15)
Moseley v Coventry
Newport v Newbridge
Northampton v Saracens Pontypool v Tredegar . Rugby v Numeaton
Sale v Broughton Park
Sellork v Kelso (2.0)
Swansea v Glamorgan W
Waterloo v Birkenhead Pk (2.15)

WEST: Club metches: Falmouth v Pennyn; Hayle v St. Ives; Launcescon v Okahampton; Newquey Homess v Char-man s XV; Penzance-Newlyn v Truro; Redruth v Camborne; Weitington v Wivelscombe; Weits v President's XV; Winscombe v Cheddar. RELAND: Jack Kyle Cap: Ballyment v

RUGBY LEAGUE STÜNES AITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Casselord v Hull RR (12.30), Feetherstone v Weissfield (11.30); Laeds v Halfax (11.30); Oldnem v Saltord; St Heiens v Wigen; Werrington v Widnes. Second division: Barrow v Carlesix; Chorley v Legh; Densitury v Eathy (11.30); Donesser v Sheffield (2.15); Huddersfield v Runcom (3.30); Fechale v Swinton; Writtenswen v Workingson (3.30); York v Mensillola (12.0). **SCHOOLS RUGBY**

Backs on mark for **Brighton**

By Michael Stevenson The exploits of Ampleforth,

probably the outstanding side in he British Isles, are well known. Equally meritorious was Brigh-ton College's remarkable record of 15 wins from 15 matches and a points tally of 425 for and 71 geainst. It is sad that these two against. It is san that these two fine schools could not meet. The Brighton forwards could handle like backs but the backs scored 63 of the 79 tries scored.

scored 63 of the 79 tries scored. Cranleigh (away 8-6) and St Pant's (away 7-4), were easily the most demanding games that Brighton played. The schools "player of the year" award was won by C N Gates, who was greatly helped in his excellent performance at stand-off half by his scrum half, R H D Mann. The too try scorer with 15 tries. The top try scorer, with 15 tries, was ANT Dunber, who also tackled devastatingly.
Llandovery's excellent season

has been rewarded by selection of four of their fine team for the Wales 18 group side: Luc Evans at full back. Matthew Lewis at stand-off half. Owain Lloyd, normally a lock but selected by Wales at blind side and lan Jones, a centre.

King's Macclesfield, the only side to defeat Rossall this winter, have had a splendid

season. They lost two matches, with 13 wins out of 15. Their two losses were against QEGS, Wakefield (15-8) and their last match of the term, Solibull (149). King's had light young
forwards and very good backs.
Rendcomb College, from
Gloucestershire, a small boarding establishment, turn out 11 ing establishment, turn out 11 teams every Saturday and have earned eight wins at first XV level from 14 matches. The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School, for 11- to 16-year-olds, has had another wonderful season. They won all 12 games, scoring 388 points to 141 conscoring 388 points to 141 con-ceded. No victories will have pleased them more than their high-scoring wins against Christ College, Brecon (30-26) and Millfield (22-11).

Rival Boston race attaches the big names to its pay-roll London finds it a struggle to coax marathon elite

By Pat Butcher Athletics Correspondent

in New York and Charlie Spedding's sixth place in the Olympic race has helped keep Britain in the forefront of marathen running. The country's premier event, the London marathon, is in danger, however, of hitting the wall' despite the massive injection of cash from its new engages.

its new sponsors.

ADT is putting up £2 million over the next three years, with additional funding for attracting top performers, all of which amounts to almost double what Mars, the previous spousors put in. But there looks like being a relative dearth of class athletes available to run in London

available to run in Loudon, despite the early amouncement that Lism Martin, women's Otympic silver medal winner, would be in the lineap.

It had been hoped by the marathen organizers that they could have a big pre-Christmas Press conference to announce the coup of landing the men's Otympic champion. Gelindo Bordin. But it all fell through when Bordin confirmed that he had signed to run in Boston on April 17, six days before London next year. next year.

Bordin is not the only top

marathoner to prefer Boston, whose organizers, thanks to the John Hancock corporation, have cornered the market.
John Hancock, one of the John Filipook, one of the biggest insurance companies in the United States, took over the title sponsorship of Boston last year, with an injection of \$10m for five years. They then became subsidiary sponsors of the New York and Los Angeles marathons, and quietty went about

thons, and quietly went about signing up the world's top marathoners, whom, under the guise of company employees, who give 'running clinics' occa-sionally, then compete in at least two of the three Stateside marathous in the next two years.

The list of 'employees' is impressive: Joan-Benoit Samuelsoa, 1984 Olympic



Brinkmanship: Plaatjes may champion, and well worth ber alleged \$250,000 fee, since she is the only world class US marathoner of either ser, Bordin and Rosa Mota, the present Olympic champions; John Trency, 1984 Olympic silver medal winner; and Jones, who got \$70,000 simply to run New York, and whose projected emigration to live near Boston cannot be unconnected with the Hancock deal.

All of which has left London in such a tizzy that the organizers have been reduced to inviting Mark Planties, news of which will come as something of a masty surprise to the Zola Budd appreciation society. Planties is a black South African who has been given clearance by

who has been given clearance by The Athletics Congress, the United States governing body for athletics, to compete while awaiting US nationality.

Despite already seeming more of a fixture in the United States than Budd was in Britain — his wife and child are with him in Chicago, where he has a job as a physiotherapist — Plastjes has

had a couple of false starts to his American career. His participa-tion in Los Angeles lest March, when he finished third, was delayed until two days before the race when he finally got TAC

Then, even though he did not intend competing, it was strongly rumoured that his mere presence in Boston last year was sufficient to divert the Ethioplans to Rotterdam (the same day as London), where Belanych Diasamo set the world best time of Zir Gam 58sec.

The Ethiopians have never patronized London (possibly due to the Budd situation) and the good contacts which Dave Bedford, assistant race director of London, has with the Kenyan federation may turn sour if

London, has with the Kenyan federation may turn sour if Planties does come.

To make matters worse, the London organizers cannot even rely on the top British, since their race will not be the selection event for the next major champlonship, the Commonwealth Cames in a distant February, 1900. distant February, 1990.

C4

Desert Orchid to join elite band

By Mandario (Michael Phillips)

Only Halloween, Mandarin, Pendil, Captain Christy, Silver Buck and Wayward Lad have won the King George VI Rank Chase twice or more during a history of greatness that now goes back 41 years.

The hall of fame will look incomplete if Desert Orchid's name does not join that illustrious list

Having won the race two years ago, his first attempt to join the clite floundered 12 months ago when, along with two other froot runners, he set B suicidal pace which proved to be their undoing.
While Desert Orchid is

unlikely to be given as much rope as he was two years ago, I still think that his own peculiar blend of speed and stamina which has oow seen him land a Whitbread Gold Cup over three miles and five furlongs at Sandown in addition to top-class races over much shorter distances will

prove triumphant. The prevailing feeling after he had woo the Tingle Creek Chase over two miles at Sandown at the beginning of this mooth was that he had oever been better.

lo contrast, Charter Party and Kildimo, two of those who did inflict defeat upon

him last winter, have not cut much of a dash this season. In fact, both finished last last time out, Kildimo as recently as last Saturday.

So far the score between Desert Orchid and Kildimo is two to one in favour of the grey with his wins coming last season at Liverpool and Saodown against Kildimo's at Wincanton.

Charter Party beat Desert Orchid on the only occasion that they met, at Sandown in the Gainsborough Chase, But that was when he was trying to give 17lb to the subsequent winner of the Tote Gold Cup et Cheltenham.

At level weights Desert Orchid has plenty in hand and everything going for him this afternoon.

So too does Craising Altitade when he sets out to retain his unbeaten record in this country by winning the Haven Novices' Hurdle.

David Elsworth has taken out his Ascot winner Brandon Pier, but it is hoped today's race will still produce a strong gallop which will help to bring Cruisiog Altitude's stamina into play. For he showed any amount of that and speed besides when putting paid to Lalitpour and Sudden Victory at Newbury last month. Cruising Altitude is yet



Richard Lee: re-routing Delius to Ayr next month

another promising horse owned by Mr and Mrs Christopher Heath, who saw their colours carried successfully by The West Awake in the Novair Wayward Lad Novices' Chase 12 months ago. Now they look like winning the corresponding race with Rebel Song, who will be wearing a pair of blinkers for the first time in public in the bope that they will stir him

out of his lethargic ways. Last season, Rebel Song won the Sun Alliance Novices'

would have done so had oot Sir Blake fallen at the last conjecture.

With Slalom now a nonrunner, the Elsworth team should collect the Butlin's The Maledy can reward his Feltham Novices' Chase with trainer Michael Robinson by Sir Blake.

I was much impressed with the way that Sir Blake jumped fences when making his chasing debut at Newbury and I have no hesitatioo in comi-I also fancy another old ally

dle having seen him win so nicely at Chepstow last time. Elsewhere, Lily Mab can trigger off yet another Martin Pipe bonanza by winning the first race at Wincanton. For Sayfar's Lad, Sabin Du Leir, Might Move and Sunwood are all expected to follow suit at

Newton Abbot. Visitors to the west country track certainly have a treat in store in the Mid Devoo Novices' Chase, which has attracted those talented hurdlers Sabin Du Loir and Beech Road.

As far as the Langstone Cliff Hotel Chase is concerned it could pay to side with Outside Hurdle at Chelienham by Edge even though Cool

beating Slalom. Whether he Grounds has the beating of him on the book. At Market Rasen, Zeta's

flight remains a matter for Lad (1.15) and Nick The Brief (2.15) can give the first-season trainer John Costello a double taste of success, while Remedy that exciting young prospect winning the Oldbury Inter-sir Blake. when the oldbury inter-mediate Chase at Wolverhampton.

Richard Lee's Delius, because of a low blood count, is a late withdrawal from the Rowland Meyrick Handicap nate him as the day's best bet. Chase st Wetherby. He will be re-routed to an Ayr handicap Mr Gessip to win the South chase on January 4.

Coast World Handicap Hur
The way oow looks clear for

Oregon Trail, who gave the impression that he was crying out for today's longer distance when finishing so well to snatch third place behind Pegwell Bay and Beau Ranger in the A F Budge Gold Cup at Cheltenham first time out. Jenny Pitman's promising

young horse Golden Freeze looks the best bet at Huntingdon to win the EBF Chatteris Intermediate Chase while Mercy Less must be given another chance in the Bradbury Handicap Chase at Sedgefield since the reason why he was pulled up at Haydock last time out when going so well in the lead was a slipping saddle.

C 4

runners)

BOXING DAY'S BIG-RACE FIELD

2.20 KING GEORGE VI RANK CHASE (Championship race: £37,280: 3m) (6 runners)

403F/5211-5 CHARTER PARTY 23 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 10-11-10 ... R Dumicody 92 Emerald green, white stars, emerald green cap, white star.

404 2211-11 DESERT ORCHIO 23 (CD,F,G,S) (R Burridge) D Elsworth 9-11-10 S Sherwood 9 99

Dark blue, grey sleeves and cap

405 022-P54 KILDIMO 8 (D,F,G,S) (Lady Harris) G Belding 8-11-10 J Frest 87 Mauve and yellow check, yellow sleeves
406 14-11R1 VODKATINI 16 (C,F,G,S) (Dick Richardson Racing Ltd.) J Gifford 9-11-10 Peter Hobbs : 69
Yellow, red chevron, red and yellow striped sleeves, hooped cap

BETTING: 4-9 Desert Orchid, 7-1 Charter Party, 8-1 Cavvies Clown, 9-1 Kildimo, 20-1 Bob Tisdail, Vodkatini. 1987: NUPSALA 8-11-10 A Pommier (25-1) F Doumen (Fr) 9 ran

CAVVIES CLOWN

Nov 25, Newbury, good: (11-9) 188 4th to Strands Of Gold (10-0) with KILOMO (11-13) pulled up (3m 2f 82yd Harmessy Gold Cup, 229,544, 12 mg) Nov 10, Wincanton, good to firm (11-10) 5i 2nd to Ten Plus (10-9) (3m 1f, £4,536, 3 ran). Mar 17, Chelteni CHARTER PARTY. Dec S. Chepstow, soft: (12-0) 27%! Feb 6, Sandown, heavy: See CHAR-

> MARKET RASEN Selections

By Mandarin

12.45 Man Of Fun. 1.15 Zeta's Lad. 1.45 Jinxy Jack, 2.15 Nick The Brief. 2.45 Tresidder. 3.15

Going: good to soft (chase course); good (hurdles)

12.45 RISBY SELLING HURDLE (£970; 2m) (22

BOB TISDALL
Dec 10, Lingfield, good: (11-10) beat
Smart Tar (11-8) by 1½! (3m,
£10,197, 10 ran).
Nov 23, Haydock, good to soft: (1011) taš 13th when 2nd in nace won
by Beau Ranger (11-13) (3m Listed,
£8,056, 6 ran).
Apr 4, Watherby, good to soft: (11-7)
12½! 3rd to Hundy Trick (10-10) (3m
100yd, Listed, £7,531, 7 ran).

Sth to Ten Pius (10-12) (3m, Listed,
£4,347, 5 ran).

Eat GAVVIES CLOWN (12-0) by 8t
with KILDIMO (12-0) behind in 7th in
the Gold Cup (3m 2t, Championship
race, £81,960, 15 ran).

Fob 6, Sandown, heavy; (10-11)
beat Rityme 'N' Reason 8t with
DESERT ORCHID (12-0) a neck 3rd
(3m 118yd, £20,450, 11 ran).

DESERT ORCHID Dec 3. Sandown, good: (12-0) beat Jim Thorpe (10-8) 121 where VODKATINE refused to race (2m 18yd Listed, 28,813, 5 ran). Oct 27, Wincanton, good: (11-8) beat Bishops Yam (11-8) by 15i (2m 5f, £3,694, 5 ran). Apr 23, Sandown, good to firm: (11-11) best KILDIMO (11-12) 2½1 (3m 5t 18yd Whitbread Gold Cup, £45,000, 12 ran).

Dec 9, Cheltenham, good: (12-3) just over 71 5th to Bucko (10-4) (3m 1f, 27.830, 6 ran). Nov 26, Newbury, good: see CAVVIES CLOWN. Apr 23, Sandown, good to firm; see DESERT ORCHID. Mar 17, Cheltenham, soft. see CHARTER PARTY. VODKATINI

11 -000 COUNTRY JUMEY 11 (B,CD,G) J Leigh 6-10-0

12 32P- DANCING ADMIRAL 319 (5) K Morgan 6-10-0

2.15 RACING POST NOVICES CHASE (£1,430: 2m

9 00- SUVAMARVAL 288 J Bander 6-70-13... MON-RANGER

2-5 Nick The Brief, 5-1 Norval, 6-1 Deep Ciff, 10-1 others.

2.45 KERNEL HANDICAP CHASE (£1,847: 2m) (7)

1 1935 KAMR 11 (CD.F.Q.S) K Morgan 0-1-1-13 Date Nickeawn 2 4213 BBG ASH 8 (B.CD.F.Q.S) Jimmy Fizzgeraki 5-11-18. — 3 4-11 TRESIDDER 9 (CD.G.S) M W Easterby 0-11-18 4 -264 VALEHTINOS JOY 24 (CD,F,C,S) O Oktroyd 9-10-13

5 042- TERRYASH 212 (CD.Q.S) M Chapman 9-10-3 J A Hords 5 632- EVEN DEEPER 223 (S) J Blandel 6-10-0 ... M Brennan 7 PP-0 8ESHMUDA'S GLEN 28 (D.F.S) J Blandel 10-10-0

7-4 Tresidder, 7-2 Big Ash, 9-2 Karnir, 8-1 Valentinos Joy.

7 -806 ENCHANTED COUNT 11 G Oldroyd 4-10-10 W Stephens (7)

0 JACK LONDON 116 J Herris 4-10-10........... J A Ha 42 LUMBERJACK 9 (6F) Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-10-18

6-4 Yahaeb, 2-1 Lumberjack, 7-2 Marire, 12-1 Chotomski.

9 0P-3 ST M THE DARK 8 C Roech 5-10-10..... O Skyrme (7) 16 3250 GORYACALL 58 W G Turner 4-10-9.... G Charle-Jones 11 00-4 NORSUCH PALACE 12 Mas S Llevellyn 4-10-8

12 0-09 ROSE LANCASTER 13 T Helient 5-10-0 P Sendant 15-5000 L SHRONDELLE 4 (V) M Pipe 5-10-8 P Sendant 4-00-8 PRINCESS SHIGH 36 C Pophers 4-10-8 P Richard 15 GP04 EVESHAM BUTCHERS 19 J Bennett 8-10-8 S-Shits

5-2 Below Zero, 4-1 Sit in The Dark, Nonsuch Palace. 2.15 THURLESTONE HOTEL HANDICAP HURDLE

1 115- BILLILA 332 (D.S) O Belding 5-11-12 R Guest 2 5/3-3 INIGHT MOVE 15 (CD.S) M Pipe 5-11-4 P Southmore 6 (S-P LOCKWOOD PRINCE 65 (G.S) R Frost 5-11-1

4 2155 HANDY LANE 27 (CD.F.S) D Barrys 7-11-0. P. Michaels 5 4-06 GOCOWYNS LAD 17 (D.S) A Barrow 4-10-12 Lores Vincent

6 0-50 OUT OF RANGE 19 (5) D Saworth 5-10-11. O Bits 7 B-22 HIGHTOWN FONTANA 4 (D,S) R Hodges 7-10-7 A Manholten 8 -036 CORAL HARBOUR 36 (CD,F,G) | Wardle 6-10-1 He Walt

11-4 Hightown Fontane, 7-2 Might Move, 4-1 Billie.

2.45 LANGSTONE CLIFF HOTEL, CHASE (E3,949:

2 1-31 OUTSTOE EDICE 14 (CD,S) D MUTRY-Smith 7-11-3 B Bradley 3 3-41 TEAM CHALLENGE 13 (D,F,G,S) Mrs J Pilmen 8-10-6

5-4 Outside Edge, 11-4 Team Challenge, 8-1 Sacred Patit.

3.15 HIGHER HUMBER NOVICES HANDICAP

HURDLE (22,337: 2m 5f 110yd) (16)

9 0-10 GALLOIS BOSQUET 14 (CD,BF,F,S) C Pophs

(£3,192: 2m 150yd) (14)

3m 2f 100yd) (6)

Sman Korney (7)

10 F MANDALAY PRINCE 11 T Kersey 4-10-18

3.15 ACCURATE NOVICES HURDLE (£1,273: 2m)

11 YAHEEB 19 (CD,G,S) M W Easterby 4-11-0

KILDIMO

Duc 10, Cheltentern, good: (11-10) best Harley Street Man (10-0) by 1½1 (2m, £4,347, 6 ran). Dec 3, Sandown, good: see DESERT ORCHED. Nov 19, Ascot, good to firm: (†1-4) beat The Welder by 1! (2m, £6.673, good to firm). Selection: DESERT ORCHID

Dec 17, Ascot, good to firm: (12-0) just over 12l 4th to Ballyhane (10-4) (3m Listed, £13.480, 5 ran).

KEMPTON PARK

Selections By Mandarin

12.45 Cruising Altitude. 1.15 SIR BLAKE (nap). 1.45 Olympic Times.

2.20 Desert Orchid. 2.50 Rebel Song. 3.20 Mr Gossip.

By Michael Seely

1.15 Sir Blake. 2.20 Desert Orchid. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.20 DESERT ORCHID.

Going: good to firm

12.45 HAVEN NOVICES HURDLE (Listed race: £4,012: 2m) (12 runners) C 4 101 SFQ-411 ANOTHER CORAL 24 (D.G.S) (M Deeley) D Nicholson 5-11-7 R Deminoody 22 00025-1 BRANDON PIER 8 (F) (G Greenwood) D Eleworth 5-11-7 NON-RILINEER 103 84-1 CRUISING ALTITUDE 30 (D.G) (Mrs. C Heath) O Sherwood 5-11-7 S Sherwood 96 105 OPP-116 IMADYINA 38 (BF.F) (E Parles) D Berons 5-11-5 B de Hean 9 99 105 OPP-116 IMADYINA 38 (BF.F) (E Parles) D Berons 5-11-5 B Crusel 85 421 SLAND SET 7 (D.G) (J Short) K Morgan 6-11-5 B Crusel 85 105 421 SLAND SET 7 (D.G) (J Short) K Morgan 6-11-5 B Crusel 85 105 4-112 GREENHELS JOY 18 (D.F.S) (L Audus) M Ryan 5-11-2 J McLaughts 97 108 1-3 REINITTANCE MAIN 19 (F) (J Colline) N Henderson 4-11-0 S Misone 98 109 26F/ SPUD TANSON 628 (R Wright) J Fox 7-11-0 S Misone 110 0000/F TOWN ROCKET 7 (Miss J Heritage) J Fox 6-11-0 Peter Hobbs 111 0000/F TOWN ROCKET 7 (Miss J Heritage) J Fox 6-11-0 R Armett 12 P PEACEWORK 30 (S Burridge) O Essenth 4-10-9 R Armett 12 P PEACEWORK 30 (S Burridge) O Essenth 4-10-9 R Armett 14 rep.

FORM ANOTHER CORAL got up in the closing stages when beating Blue Bourbon a head at Bangor (2m, soft) last time. CRUISING ALTITUDE made a pleasing hurding debut when overcoming inexperience to beat Lampour %I at Newbury (2m 100yd, good). ESPY, consistent, was ridden out to best Bronze Final 4I at Huntingdon (2m 100yd, good) with

1987: BiLOXI BLUES 8-11-7 P Croucher (7-2) K Balley 14 ran REMITTANCE MAN (SID worse off) 11 3rd. MADYNA, twice a winner this term, disappointed last time when 27% 5th of 7 to Man On The Line at Asox (2m 4f, good to firm) last time.

Asox (2m 4f, good to firm) last time.

SILAND SET is improving and got off the mark when beating Cettle Sarie a neck at Towcester (2m,good) with TOWN ROCKET pulled up.

Selection: CRUISING ALTITUDE

1.15 BUTLIN'S FELTHAM NOVICES CHASE (Feature race: £10,272:

BETTING: 4-5 Sir Stake, 2-1 Bigsun, 4-1 Alone Success, 8-1 Vulgan Warrior 1987: TWIN OAKS 7-11-4 P Croucher (9-4) D Murray-Smith 6 mm

FORM BIGSUN is consistent and met a useful opponent last time when 22 2nd to Cool Sun at Chettenham (Sm 11, good) with ALONE SUCCESS (same terms) 10/3 rd.

debut over fences when beating Brown Windsor 25% at Newbury (2m 44, good).

vull GAN WARRION was 31 2nd to Nick The Brief, a winner since, at Nottingham last time out (2m 6f,

SIR BLAKE, a very usafut hurdler, made a winning

Course specialists TRAINERS Rides Per cer (Only qualifiers

Trainers' preferred races

The following is a first of trainers' Boxing Day preferences where a horse is engaged more than once: Kempton: 12.45 Imadyna; 1.45 Spanish Reef; 2.20 Bob Tisdail, Wetherby: 2.0 South Sunrise; 2.30 Saskia's Reprieve; 3.35 Shelgrove Place, Pondered Bid. Wincanton: 3.15 Smartle Express. Huntingdon: 2.0 Gembridge Jupiter; 3.30 Smokey Gem.

1.45 ROYAL GARDEN HOTEL HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,882: 2m) (14

301 400-320 NEERIS 23 (D.F.G) (J. Shortal) R Akshurat 7-12-0
302 5006-14 HEART OF STONE 26 (D.G.S) (Mrs J Maynard) R Akshurat 8-11-13.
303 4180-12 PLEET COMMANDER 16 (D.BF.F.S) (M Meade) G Sharwood 8-11-10.
304 610-212 TINAS LAD 17 (D.BF.F.G) (G Johnson) J Edwards 5-11-4
305 (ZZI-13) THE YOMPER 16 (D.G.S) (I Adel) R Curis 6-11-4
306 2Z1622 BRENT RIVERSIDE 58 (D.SF.F.S) (S Meach) G Baiding 5-11-1
307 13-3905 TRUST THE SUSH 23 (D.S) (A Gardiner-Hill) H (7 Neil 7-10-13
308 3S-4083 JAZETAS 9 (B.D.S) (G Cooks) N Callaghan 0-10-11
319 1465-01 CREEAGER 17 (D.G.S) (J Berry) J Wharton 6-10-10
310 1030-46 GANCON 27 (D.S) (Mrs R Morris) J Junkins 5-10-9
311 P269-11 OLYMPIC TIRES 18 (D.G.S) (D Montagus) N Handerton 7-10-7
312 201100- BOLD LAMENT 244 (D.S) (D Montagus) N Handerton 7-10-7
313 6319-48 STAR OF A GUINNER 18 (D.B.F.S) (M 8 N Plant Lich) R Holder 8-10-2
BETTING: 4-1 Olympic Times, 5-1 Fleet Commander, 8-1 Times Lad, 8-1 Bold L 97 96 BETTING: 4-1 Olympic Times, 5-1 Fleet Commander, 8-1 Times Lad, 8-1 Bold Lement, 10-1 Jegetas, Creanger, 12-1 The Yomper, Star Of A Gurner, 14-1 Heart Of Stone, 18-1 others.

1967: JRMMY LORENZO 8-11-0 | Shoemark (3-1 fav) P Hedger 10 ran

FORM FLEET COMMANDER was 12! 2nd to Badhar at Lingfield lest time (2m, good to soft) with THE YOMP'ER (2b bester off) 2! back in 3rd.

BRENT RIVERSEDE has not run since finishing 1! 2nd to Handy Lane at Devon (2m 11, good to soft) in Selection: OLYMPIC TIMES (map)

220 KING GEORGE VI RANK CHASE (Championship race: £37,280: 3m) (6 runners)

RUNNERS AND RIDERS - SEE ABOVE

2.50 NOVAIR WAYWARD LAD NOVICES CHASE (Listed race: £5,921: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

Mr O Harmon . R Durwoody • 90 B Powell J Frest . Mr A Siggs .. B de Hann S Sherwood 1121-22 REBEL SONG 20 (B,CD,SF,S) (Mrs C Heath) O Sherwood 8-11-0. F19-843 STAR'S DELIGHT 14 (F,S) (F Berr) R Hodges 0-11-0 @ Trainer status Herbert Hollard will not our unless there is rain

BETTING: 11-4 Rabel Song, 100-90 Chasa The Line, 4-1 Com Marchant, 8-1 Hogmanay, 8-1 Skygrange ar, 12-1 others.

1967: THE WEST AWAKE 6-11-4 S Sherwood (Evens fav) O Sherwood 4 ran

FORM CORN MERCHANT, winner of a Newton Abbot (2m 5f, firm) novice chase in August, was just touched off by a need by Mister Christian over the same course and distance (good) last time out.

REBEL SONG, one of the time standard of the same (good) lest time out.

HOGIMANAY was disqualified after winning at Hundington (2m 4f good to firm) on perultimate start for failing to draw the correct weight.

CHASE THE LINE finished well when a short head 2nd to Larchwood at Ascot (2m 4f, good to firm) list.

REBEL SONG, one of the top staying novice hardens last term, has falled to recapture that kind of form over the larger obstacles. Beaten a head by Marmora Bay at Luicester (2m 41, good) last time out.

STAR'S DELIGNIT not disgreced when just over 51 3rd to Deep Morpent at Warwick (272, accord to soft).

3.20 SOUTHCOAST WORLD HANDICAP HURDLE (E3,522 3m) (10 funners)	
801 020-205 MRS MUCK 23 (D.G.S) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Device 7-12-5	92
602 0013-03 CHEMIST BROKER 44 (CD.F.G.S) (Food Brokers Lini) R Akuhurst 8-11-16 Shoemerk (4)	96
603 2P2229- WOLLOW WILL 324 (C.D.F.G.S) (F Winter) C Brooks 6-11-0 B de Heen	90
904 0-02297 LYPHENTO 18 (C,G,S) (R G#00r) J Gifford 4-11-7	82
605 113-518 TAGNO 18 (C.F.G.S) (M Tate) M Tate 8-11-0 NH Tate (4)	92
608 021-021 MR GDSSIP 23 (D.C.S) (Lady Sevan) N Henderson 5-10-12 J White e	99
	97
606 24FF3F/ SIGN AGAR: 614 (F,S) (R Wright) J Fox 10-10-9 S Moore	_
909 0-52311 TYRED M'SNOOKERO 19 (V.C.S) (J Whelen) P Hedger 4-10-7	93
516 P/0213-4 MASTER BARN 18 (F) (P Rogers) R Frost 0-10-0 J Frost	96
BETTING: 3-1 Mr Gossip, 7-2 Chemist Broker, 4-1 Lyphenia, 8-1 Tyred N'Snockerd, 8-1 Sma Express, 10-1 Wollow Will, 12-1 others.	rtie

1987: CHEMIST RECKER 1 Shoemerk (5-2 feet R Akelyest 11 ran FORM LYPHENTO, not the most reliable of performers, but put has best foot forward when beesing Cetic Bob 44 at Chettenham last time (2m 4t, pood).

TAGIO, a winner at Nottingham last month (2m 6t, good to firm) finished a close 6th to Christmes Holly at Dencaster (2m 4t, good) on latest outing.

ME GOSSIP ran on well to win a well-contested Chepstow handicap (3m, soft) by 41 from Buckskin's Best.

SMARTTE EXPRESS was ridden out to beet Record Dancer %1 at Taumon (3m 1f. good to soft) with MASTER BARN (4h better off) 31 further back in 4th. May struggle to confirm the form.

TYRED N'SNOCKERD, in good form at present, ran on to beet Okeetee 2I at Towcester (2m 5/ 25yd) last time. HOTE MASTER BARN

WETHERBY

Selections By Mandarin

1.00 Young Benz.

2.30 Great Gander. 3.00 Oregon Trail. 3.35 Shilgrove Place.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.00 SWARDEAN (nap).

Guide to our in-line racecard

Recocard number. Six-tigure form (F - felt. distance winner. BF - beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won own. S - stipped up. R - refused. D - disqualihed). Horse's name. Days soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in since last outing: F II list. (B - bithers. brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider winner. D - distance winner. CD - course and Handicapper's rating.

1.0 CHRISTMAS NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £1,325: 2m) (13 runners) 316 GALLOWAY RAIDER 19 (BF,3) (J Blanch) Donys Smith 11-7

P AFRICAN SPRIT 30 (G Turts) R Winshier 11-0

BEAU HASH SEF (Mrs R Colemns) A Stringer 11-0

GANTALORNER 28 (K Foster) Mrs S Austin 11-0

O4422-0 FOURTAINCOURT 12 (Full Orcie Thoroughbrots E Pic) N Tinkier 11-0

FREESY'S PREACHER 51F (Serif & Co. Ltd.) I Wardie 11-0

(BBCCIAN 505 6666 R Cont 6 Cont 1-0 R Campbell FREEBY'S PREACHER STF (Sent & Co Ltd) I Wardle GRECIAN JOS 565F (F Carr) F Carr 11-0. LARLOCH 465F (A Legget) Jimmy Fizzgerald 11-0. RANDOM WARRIOR (J. Humson) J Hanson 11-0. S35 THE RED ONE 11 (J. Hanson) J Hanson 11-0. YOUNG BENZ 6FF (F Benerit) At HESSARDY 11-0. O-DAURICUM STF (Miss S McInhyre) C Thorston 10-9. (SRRGHY FLYER 13 (BP) (D Gill) R Whitaker 10-9. _ R Fahey (4) M Dwyer
.... B Dowling
... A Meerigan
... L Wyer
D Wathwoo BETTING: 2-1 Young Benz, 7-2 Galloway Ruder, 5-1 Kirkby Flyer, 5-1 Fountaincourt, 5-1 Lartoch, 10-1 Freeby's Progcher, 121-1 The Red One, Beau Nash, 14-1 others.

1987: WATERDALE 11-0 P Tuck (4-7 tax) M W Easterby 17 ran

1.30 TOWTON HANDICAP CHASE (25,162: 2m 4f 100yd) (5 runners)

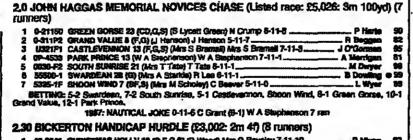
BETTING: 2-1 Stey On Tracks. 11-4 Raise An Argument, 7-2 Joes Soversignty, 4-1 Karenomore, 8-1

1987; VELLIERSTOWN 8-11-13 K Jones (8-1) W A Stephenson 6 fam

THE TIMES RACING SERVICE

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1967: PAT WOLLOW 5-10-7 L Wyer (11-16 fev) M H Easterby 5 ran 3.0 ROWLAND MEYRICK HANDICAP CHASE (Listed race: £10,820: 8m 100yd) (9

M Duyer J Cebome A Marrigan ... R Beggen # P Niver: • # BETTING: 3-1 Bucko, 7-2 Oregon Trait, 4-1 Whats What, 6-1 Durham Edition, 7-1 Pacifists, 23-1 others

1987: YAHOO 8-10-4 T Morgan (11-8 tay) J Edwards 5 ran 3.35 BOXING DAY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,044: 2m) (17 runners)

Comes (7) ... M Dayer J Osberse B Countag P Harte (4) 23/00 ASST THE THEMET 11 (Miss C Yathe) C Booth 8-10-6.

9-000 PALAIS DE DANSE 13 (G Simpson) A Pous 4-10-4.

905 MUST BE MAGIC 12 (Mrs J Norman) E Alexon 4-10-2.

900 PATIENT DREAMER 18 (J Holland Fox) H Collegidge 4-10-1.

30-2000 PALMRISH 11 (Mrs L Cast-Mislaw) C Thombon 4-10-1.

P034-80 BATTLE STING 19 (Mrs S Ward) Mrs S Ward 4-10-0.

900-P02 ANREA 19 (D Lee) D Lee 5-10-0. ___ 1. Wyo M Maegher A O Smith (7) + 99 .. B Smith (7) 9050-05 JOHN CORBET 9 (J Thompson) D Lae 5-10-0 Long handicap: Anrika 9-13, John Corbst 9-13. BETTING: 7-2 General Tinker, S-1 Beau Guest, 8-1 Shilprova Pisce, 8-1 Miss Relsun, Silk Thread, 10-1 Mind Your Back, 12-1 Pondered Bid, Four Counties, 14-1 Basie Song, 16-1 others.

1967: THE PAPPARAZI 7-10-0 D Morphy (4-1) S Corley 17 run Course specialists

JOCKEYS Witners TRAINERS Per cen 26,7 23,4 16,4 11,1 22.2 22.0 20.8 26.3 17.1 18.5 (Only outflood

9-4 Naudicel Belle, 11-4 Resolvery Coose, 4-1 Man Of Fun.

1.15 BRUCE CARR MEMORIAL TROPHY CHASE

5-2 South Sunrise, 7-2 Zeta's Lad, 5-1 Easter Festiva 1.45 KILVINGTON LONG DISTANCE HANDICAP

HURDLE (£2,040: 2m 4f) (16) 1 /2-0 SPECIAL VINTAGE 23 (0,0,5) Jimmy Fitzgerald
8-12-7 J Hayes (7)
2 28-2 JRECV JACK 10 (05,5) S Richards 4-12-1 M Doughly
3 -000 KIBO MELIODY 37 (C,6) B McLians 5-11-0 R Gentby (7)
4 P-05 JAMES MY BOY 12 (0,5) M Dickinson 5-11-0 P Gentby (7)
5 20-0 ROSIE CONE 20 (8,0,5) Mrs P Sly 8-10-11
6 F210 HARD TO HOLD 18 (F,0) C Allen 5-10-8... Mr A Hambly
7 G101 SASKIA'S REPRIEVE 11 (V,D,G,5) K Stone 4-10-4...

NEWTON ABBOT

Selections

By Mandarin 12.45 Saylar's Lad. 1.15 Sabin Du Loir. 1.45 Cinderella Derek. 2.15 Might Move, 2.45 Outside Edge. 3.15 Sunwood.

Going: good (hurdles); good to soft (chase) 12.45 EBF NOVICES HURDLE (82,530: 2m 150yd) (16 numbers) 1 1-21 AUCTION LAW23 (D.F.6.5)D Berons 4-11-18 P Nicholie 2 -111 SAYFAR'S LAD 6 (D.G) M Pipe 4-11-10... P Scattemore 6 AUSTOS J CI d-11-0... P Danis (7) 4 004- CORNER PERPORNER 201 R Frost 5-11-0

HAPPY PADRE K Nicholes 5-11-0 PRICETON PARK 48 R Pocock 6-11-0 PRICETON PARK 48 PRICETON PA

1.15 MID DEVON NOVICES CHASE (23,127: 2m 5f) 16 F-2F TAUCA 76 (S) W Read 9-11-0 A Mahabiland (4) 11 2023 TW/GH LGHT MOTH 20 B Pating 10-11-0 C Evens 12 339-1 HOPE COVE 12 (F-S) O Barons 6-10-13 P Nicholts 14 3P-8 CHASE THE CLOUDS 18 W Williams 7-10-9

1-2 Sabin Du Loir, 4-1 Longriver Lady, 8-1 Hope Cove. AS CHRISTMAS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (2790: 2m 150yd) (15) 1 2006 CONTEC PRINCE 4 (CO.G.S) S Forsey 8-11-10

8 6360 TIARUM 6 (D,G,S) A Chamberlato 04042

to have vanished."

The state of the s

Carvill's Hill to top the bill at Leopardstown

From our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin
Jim Dreaper finally decided
yesterday that Carvill's Hill
would take his chance in the
IrE20,000 Dennys Gold Medal
Novice Chase, the Boxing Day

Flat or over hurdles, 81b better off with Ballychorus Carvill's Hill, who has never been out of the first two oo the Flat or over hurdles, looks feature event at Leopardstown.
Last week, he had reported
Carvill's Hill an unlikely starter, certain to start a warm favourite retain his unbeaten record this but yesterday disclosed that "the term. stiffness which was bothering him on Wednesday now appears

It was surprising to find only seven three-year-olds in contention for the Ir£12,000 Dennys In his first run over fences, at Navan, Carvill's Hill made light Juvenile Hurdle. Five of them are previous winners, the best work of beating modest oppo-sition, but he finds himself pitted against some very su-perior novices today including old rivals, Riska's River and Ballychorus Dream, as well as a being Sayparee but he may fail to give ! 21b to Break Fast.
This will be the first run Over jumps for Mrs Meg Mullion's home-bred Break Fast, but this filry has been showing smart

good hurdler turned chaser, Deep Idol. shility at home and oo the Flat was a course winner and was Deep 1001.
On a right-hand track
Ballychorus Dream, a 10 length
Fanyhouse winner, would be
favoured, but on this lefthanded circuit Riska's River placed several times in listed races. Chepstow soft The advance going is soft for tomorrow's Coral Welsh Nat-ional meeting at Chepstow could reverse the Fairyhouse placings, especially as he is now

8-4 Surwood, 7-2 Sketcher, 8-1 Cantorial, Kamadoor, RAPID O RACELINE CALL 0898 168+ THE COURSEN BELOW Live Commentaries Post Results 155 150 109 110 145 146 Kempton Wetherby Wincanton Wolverhamptan 129 130 Newton Abbot 143 – Across the card 168 – TIMEFORM RACEVIEW 0898 168 122 RESULTS AFTER RACING Hentingdon Market Rasen .. sedgefield. Pull Classifieds. **GREYHOUND RESULTS** Bristol, Monmore _ Catford, Crayford, Romford Oxford, Hall Green, Belle Vue 104

From Iain Macleod St Anton, Austria

Celebrating the festival of St Niklass had added significance this year for the close-knit community of the tiny Swiss village of Elm: Vreni Schneider, the favourite daughter of these parts, appears destined to fulfil her cherished ambition to become World Cup overall champion.

Mcanwhile, in Western

champion.

Meanwhile, in Western Switzerland, Pirmin Zurbriggen spent a quiet, family Christmas content in the knowledge that, barring injury, his fourth men's title will again find its home in the Valais.

Which only goes to prove that those critics who were quick to herald a Swiss decline after a disappointing performance at the Wioter Olympics in Calgary, have, not for the first time, been proved wrong.

lar, have been in majesuc form. Carole Merle, of France, may have won the opening race in Schladming, but each of the seven races held since has had a Swiss on the top rung of the raction.

swiss on the top rung of the podium.
Schneider has been outstanding. She incurred terrible injuries towards the end of last scason after a fall in the downfull at Aspen. However, she has returned physically stronger and technically improved, and has won the last four slalom and giant skalom races.

giant slalom races.

Given that she also picked up 25 points for winning the combination event at Altenmarkt, Schneider's lead in the overall standings (60 ahead of Ulrike Meier, of Austria) is not surveising

not surprising.
Her compatriot, Michela Figini, has been consistent and looks ready to add to her laurels at February's world champion-ships in Vail. But it has been the return to form of the downhill world ehampion, Maria Walliser, which has given more cause for satisfaction. The photogenic Walliser con-

tinues to be a target for mil-lionaire film-makers. She performed dismally during the crucial stage of last season and there were fears that she was past her best. The downhill win at Altenmarkt disproved this.

A fascinating battle is being conducted in the men's events. Zorbriggen has still to win a this season but, by virtue of first, second and third places in, respectively, the combination, downhill and sla-lom events last week in St Anton, he has secured a 30-point advantage in the overall

Yet even Zurbriggen, who has won every title on offer, seems to be reaching a stage where the prospect of hurtling down the side of a mountain — at least compensively — no longer holds the same attraction.

It was hardly evident during the course of December but, in an interview published last Wednesday in the Zurich newspaper, Sport, Zurbriggen admit-ted that motivating himself was becoming more difficult.

to be Marc Girardelli, of Luxemburg. His non-participa-tion amid allegations of cheating hills did not enhance his prospects. The potential loss of 50 points now looks more costly

than ever. Helmut Hoeflehner, of Austria, surprisingly heads the downhill standings and the na-tion which has been searching for a worthy successor to Franz Klammer now waits with bated breath to see whether the Christmas illusion will be shattered when the proceedings resume in Garmisch-Partenkirchen on FriAustralian coach spearheads the challenge against Rugby League's aristocrats



Local club on top of the world

hey are proud of what they have achieved in Castleford, to the extent that they took umbridge when a newspaper article referred to their rugby league ground at Weldon Road as "old brick and tin", and to the club coach, Darryl van de Velde, as "bald as a ball."

What disrespectful way is that to talk about a man who has taken a side, which has never won the championship, to the top of the league? Castleford entertain Hull Kingston Rovers today as the unbeaten leaders, heading the game's so-called wealthy aristocrats, Wigan and Leeds.

In point of fact, van de Velde admits that both the ground and his head of hair have seen better days. The club rarely has. There have been oyous occasions of course: successive Challenge Cup triumphs in 1969 and 1970, and again as recently as 1986. But no championship.

That most recent Wembley win lifted the spirits of Castleford's 35,000 population, trying to recover from the ravages of the miners' strike. The coalfields are now closed. The smoke belching out across the town comes only from domestie chimney stacks and the focus of employment has switched to the chemical plant of Hicksons International

Hicksons has not only been involved in helping to re-stimulate the local economy. It is also the main

"At the outsel three years ago our involvement was no more than a gesture of goodwill," David Law, the company's Press spokesman, said, "It was never intended to be a real commercial investment. I think we

are on a winner now though." By popular consent - that is in the black and amber bedecked pubs in the town - it is van der Velde who has turned the club into a winner. Men who normally expect a receipt if they pay a compliment, speak in reveren-tial terms of van der Velde. The rugged, hard and bent-nosed Australian coach, aged 37, insists that it is the Castleford is a town undergoing social changes.

Its rugby league club is enjoying a new way of life too. Mick Cleary reports on its attempt to win the championship for the first time

players who have turned themselves respect and he has done just that. It is in to winners. He neither wants, nor expects, credit for it.

According to him, he has only helped point the way. Once the players became aware of the direction they were meant to take, they took off Van der Velde, who left his thriving

financial consultancy business in Brisbane at the start of this season to pursue his dream of becoming a top coach, does not beat about the bush. He says what he thinks. He has no time for shoddy performances, on or off the field. Even in an A team match 10 days ago he cursed his reserve hooker, Graham Southernwood, aged 17, for petulant ill-discipline which cost his side a two-point penalty. In the next breath he was praising him as a future international.

Just after his arrival he was surprised to find two players hobbling off by themselves to the local casualty ward for treatment. He went straight to the chairman and insisted on private care and attention for all his players. It was duly done.

Last week Castleford's Australian full back, Garry Belcher, was treated by a Harley Street specialist for a hernia, even though the club, which was unlikely to get another game from him before his contract ran out, could have sent him back home. Van der Velde has instilled that sort of mutual loyalty.

The elub's record single-season points scorer, Boh Beardmore, who is sharing a benefit this year with his twin brother, the Great Britain hooker, Kevin Beardmore, is Castleford born and bred. He is not a man easily impressed. Yet he says of Van der Velde: "He had to earn our no good just bawling at someone and thinking that will make them work harder. It is more complex than that.

professional about our own game." Van der Velde is no gruff, megaphone-voiced tub thumper. He is assertive but in a reasoned, intellectual way. He explains rather than exhorts. His whole credo is based on an American philosopher, Richard Bach, whose fictional tome, Jonathan Livingston Seagull, is an allegorical study of self-achievement. It sounds an unlikely backdrop to the blood and

But Darryl has made us all more

Championship leaders

			_		F		
Castleford	10	9	1	0	263	133	1
Leeds	13	8	0	4	273	183	1
Widnes	11	6	0	3	306	129	1
St Helens	12	7	1	4	261	251	1
		_					_

bludgeon world of rugby league. No one now doubts its validity.

"I know it all sounds very pretentious but, believe me, it is so true," van der Velde s is that one should always aim for the best. The only hindrance to improvement is the South. History proves just that. It was said that the amazing swimming records set by Johnny Weismueller were unbeatable. Now 12-year-old-girls are beating them. The key to it all is in the mind. But once the players accept that they can do it all themselves."

Hence the 10 commandments engraved on the dressing room wall. Samples. Winners make it happen; losers let it happen. Winners make commitments; losers make promises. Winners thrive; losers just survive.

Fine words will get you only so far however, particularly in Yorkshire. Van der Velde has done his stuff on the training field as well. Or, to be more precise, in front of his video

He has insisted that each match,

The attention to detail was picked np from a trip van de Velde made to the University of Hawaii 18 months ago. In his opinion the Americans were without peer when it came to the systematic and scientific appraisal of sport. He wanted in. He was only there for a week. At first he was rebuffed. After all he had not been mvited. But van de Velde pestered the Hawaii personnel until they became more impressed than irritated by his continued presence.

Van der Velde never confers with other coaches. He has oo idea whether. his methods - brutal, self-correction and improvement - would find approval elsewhere. They have in Castleford, with attendances no by some 20 per cent. What was once renowned as a caudy floss side who were pretty in parts but who lacked the solid core, now have the second best defensive record in the land. It is all based on a rigorously pragmatic approach. Mistakes are highlighted in the weekly encounter session.

There is still some way to go, however. Van der Velde had instructed his players on the debilitating effects of alcohol and tobacco. Yet, two days before their last game, there was Kevin Beardmore, cigarette in hand, enjoying a pint with his mates. One withering look from van der Velde said it all. Beardmore grinned sheepishly. Some bad habits die harder than others.

reserve games included, should be videoed. Then, aided by a ream of statistic sheets compiled during the game he writes a detailed analysis of each player's performance. He then grades them out of 10. Each player, m private, does the same. At Tuesday training he called at three unsuspecting names to read out their

The 44th Sydney-Hobart race,
Australia's 630-nautical mile
offshore classic, due to start at
1 pm today, will probably be
sailed in mostly lighter winds
that will not give the odds-on
pre-race favourite, Windward
Passage II, the opportunity to
break the race record.
The race forecaster. Dr Roger

break the race record.

The race forecaster, Dr Roger Badham, predicted that the race, to be contested by 124-entries, would start in a 15-knot nor easter, the wonderful Sydney summer sea breeze reinforcing a gradient northerly wind that has made Sydney extremely humid for the past few days.

But on the first night, that would give way to a fresh would give way to a fresh southerly, putting the fleet hard southerly, putting the fleet hard on the wind and certainly sorting out the men from the boys. The southerly change could reach a good 30 knots, its strength depending on a low pressure system forming to the east of Bass Strait.

While the change would be vigorous, Badham estimated that the wind strength would ease after six hours and a high pressure system moving to

pressure system moving to-wards Bass Strait (between Tasmania and mainland Australia) tomorrow might bring light winds that could split the fleet.

the fleet.

The big yachts could gain a winning break; the smaller ones could be locked out in lighter air on the wrong side of the high. This situation will certainly suit Windward Passage II, the hi-tech composite plastic Frers-design maxi owned by Rod Muir, of Sydney, but deny her the chance of beating the race record, of two days 14 hours 36 minutes and 56 seconds set by the American, Jim Kilroy's Kialoa, in 1975 in ideal reaching and running ideal reaching and running

Windward Passage II, launched earlier this year and winner of class A at the Kenwood Cup in Hawaii, is now achieving her target speeds in all conditions and is being extremely well sailed.

She won all three races of the AWA Ocean Racing Champ-ionship preceding the Hobart race on corrected time as well as taking line honors last week, with excellent starts and sound upwind speed and pointing ability.

In the race to be first to Hobart - a long standing dream of Muir, a radio entrepreneur who spent his youth in Tasma-nia — her only real opponent is Syd Fischer's nine-year-old Frers-design Ragamuffin, which finished second across the line to Sovereign (Bernard Lewis) in

YACHTING

Softer winds may deny favourite record in classic

last year's race. A new keel and other modifications earlier this year made her highly competitive in the Kenwood Cup.

Aboard as a principal helms-Aboard as a principal nearly man is Bobby Wilmot, who represented Australia as skipper in the Soling class at the Korean Olympics. Sovereign, which won last year's race on corrected with the street of the street won last year's race on corrected time as well as being first to finish, is not racing this year. She broke her mast in the St Francis Yacht Club's 'Big Boat' series on San Francisco Bay in September and could not gel another in time for the Hobart recess her counter. Bernard

another in time for the Hobart race, so her owner, Bernard Lewis, has decided to keep her in the northern hemisphere to contest the International Class A Yacht Association events — St Thomas, Virgin Islands, in February/March and Newport, Rhode Island, in June.

With the dates for the trials to select the Australian team for the Admiral's Cup in Britain next July/August advanced to late February/early March, the 'grand prix' International Offshore Rule racers are sailing with deadly purpose in the Hobart race. Hobart race

The Farr 50 fractional rig Great News (Dave Forbes/John Calvert-Jones), just over a year old, comfortably won her class. against hot competition in the Big Boat series and is a strong contender for a win in the Hobart race and a place in the Admiral's Cup team.

Another mid-rating

Admiral's Cup team.

Another mid-rating yacht with a strong chance is Peter Kurts' Farr 44 fractional Madeline's Daughter, from the 1987 Admiral's Cup team, which has been fined with a new keel and rudder and a new rig to be a strong contender for the 1989

The rig, designed by Duncan Van Woerden of Whale Spars who was responsible for the rig of Windward Passage II, is 130lb lighter than the old rig and features a meccano set-style boom of stainless steel which is 15 to 20 per cept lighter than the old one. Madeline's Daughter, with two seconds and a third, is second on points in the AWA series which concludes with the Hobart race.

Another contender for a win. in the Hobart race is Wild Oats, Bob Oatley's four-year-old Farr 43, which has not only a new keel, rudder and rig but Britain's Olympic gold medal winner, Rodney Pattisson, aboard as

principal helmsman.

Patrisson is spending the summer in Australia to prepare Wild. Oats for the Admiral's Cup trials and is getting results. With a fifth, second and fourth, she is third in the AWA series.

Argentine designer to assist Italians

Racul Gardini of Italy has secured the services of the Argentinian yacht designer, German Frens, and the top US helmsman, Paul Cayard, for his Ross writes).

Under the Cap conditions, provided they live in Italy for more than a year before the next cup match — scheduled for 1991 depending on the outcome of the dispute between the New Zealander, Michael Fay and the San Diego Yacht Club in the New York Supreme Court over the last one — Prers would be eligible to design the Italian challenger and Cayard to sail it. Gardini owns Il Moro di Venezia, a Frers design inter-national offshore rule maxi

which, with Cayard steering, won its class to the St Francis Yacht Club's Big Boar series on San Francisco Bay last Il Moro di Venezia beat into second place the newer and potentially faster similar Frers design, Windward Passage II, owned by Rod Muir, of Australia, which had beaten II Moro di

Venezia in the previous regatta, the Kenwood Cup in Hawaii.

The performances of both

Moro di Venezia over the past year have confirmed Frers' domination of the big-yachtoffshore scene. With the new America's Cup class yacht of, 75ft overall being accepted by allthe players for the next America's Cup, his services were obviously much in demand, because of its similarities to his 80ft overall, fractional-rigged IOR maxis. Gardini, whose challenge has

been entered by Campagnia Della Vela, is planning a campaign with a \$35 million budget.
Gabriel Raffianelli will be the
syndicate manager. Adam,
Ostenfeld, the British sailor whoworked for Dennis Conner's winning team in 1987, will also be retained in a managerial role. Gardini intends to build three-yachts during his campaign. He will utilise the services of SP. Systems, on the Isle of Wight, to-

systems, on the isle of Wight, toengineer the composite plastics'
construction systems he intends,
to use to build the yachts. SP
Systems designed the lay-up and
provided materials for the
construction of Windward Passage II — acknowledged, as a breakthrough in a type of yacht where aluminium construction has been accepted as the norm."

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Service Company

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WEIGHTLIFTING

Sofia sacks president: and board for drugs

Sofia, (Reuter) — Hristo Meranzov, president of the Bulgarian weightlifting federation, and his entire 15-member executive board have been dismissed following the disqualification of two Bulgarian lifters from the Olympics for using banned drugs.

The federation announced at a press conference in Sofia on Friday that Meranzov, who is also vice-president of the International Weightlifting Federation and Sport also accepted the decision

The federation announced at a press conference in Sofia on Friday that Meranzov, who is also vice-president of the International Weightlifting Federation, was being replaced by the army general, Vasil Vasilev.

The announcement followed an investigation by the Bulgardian Olympic Committee after

Sport also accepted the decision of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to ban Guenchev and Grablev from international competition for fear users.

SPORTS BOOKS

Contemporary ice time

The second edition of his facts and figures is the mixture much as before and, while some will criticize its concentration on the modern era, it does include a statistical history of the British game, going back to the early Thirties.

Mesquita on ice hockey

you might need; as well as some, you might not need.
Stewart Roberts has edited.
The lee Hockey Annual for 13 years and this year it receives the ultimate accolade in being designated the Official Year. Book of the British Ice Hockey-Association, it is a compliment. Its main strength lies in its Association. It is a compliment comprehensive coverage of the present revival. Nowhere else is it possible to discover which points for each club, all the clubs by Gordon Wade (obtainable competing in the Heimeken from 297 Salisbury Road, championships, career records the clubs by Gordon Wade (obtainable competing in the Heimeken from 297 Salisbury Road, thampionships, career records of every player who has appeared in the premier division and every other statistical gent.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Barclays League First division

Brentford v Blackpool (11.30)
Bristol R v Wolverhampton (11.30)
Bury v Bristol C
Cardiff v Swanssa (12.0) Chester v WiganChesterfield v Huddersfield ston v Bolton (11.30) ...

GM Vauxhall Conference

Aylesbury v Wycombe
Cheltenham v Newport (11.30)
Enfield v Barnet (11.0)
Fisher v Welting (11.30)
Kettering v Bosson
Macdesheld v Altrincham
Madstone v Sutton Utd
Northwich v Stafford Runcom v Chorley Telford v Kidderninst Yeovil v Weymouth

SMERNOFF (RISH LEAGUE: Ards v Lame; Carrick v Ballymens, Colerane v Bangor; Lintled v Cittionvilla; Newty v Glenavon; Portadown v Diedlery.

HPS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division; Coernarton v South Liverpool; Restwood v Barrow (11.0); Geinsborough v Frickley (11.16); Geisshead v Shepished (2.0; Goole v Worksop (11.0); Horwich v Morecambe; Martine v Southport Method; v Budon; Mossilly v Bengor City; Rhyl v Witton; Stalybridge v Hyda.

SEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier di-vision: Alvechunch v Worcester (11.0); Bedwordt v Leleester Umael (11.0); Crawley v Darthord (11.30); Dorchester v Waterdoville, Dover v Ashlord, Fersham v Waterdoville, Dover v Ashlord, Fersham v Gosport (11.30); Methyr 1yell v Beth; Moor Green v Burton (11.0); Reddisch v Bromsgrove (11.30); VS Rugby v Corby (11.0); Wealdstone v Cambridge City. VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Second di-Vision south Hungartord v Newbury.

SPORT ON TV

CRICKET: C4: 5.05-5.00 pm: England v Australia in the Woman's World Cup Final from Matcourne. FINAL SCORE: BBC1: 4.50-5.05 pm FINAL SCORE: BBC1: 4,50-5.05 pm RACING: C4: 12,50-3 t5 pm: 12,45, 1.15, 1,45, 2.20 and 2.50 races from Recorpton Park. STREET HOCKIET: C4: 11.30 sm-12,00 pm: Serest Warmors v Speedores Titlers in The Tennant's Super National Champion-ships from Leicester.

Second division

Brighton v C Palece (1.30)
Chelsea v Ipswich (12.0)
Hull v Bradford
Leeds v Bleckburn
Leicaster v Bournemouth (11.30)
Oldham v WBA (12.0)
Strategham u Blenkfughten (11.30) Shrewsbury v Birmingham (11.30) . Stoke v Manchester C Sunderland v Barnsley

Fourth division

Cartin Givision

Burnley v Wrexham

Cambridge v Dorcaster

Carlisle v Rochdale

Colchester v Peterborough

Darlington v Halflax

Exetter v Hereford (12.0)

Leyton Orient v Tranmere (12.0)

Lincoln v Grimsby (11.30)

Rotherham v Crewe Scarborough v York Scunthorpe v Hartiepool Torquay v Stockport (11.30)

RUGBY UNION CLUB MATCHES

Aberavon v Neath Beth v Clifton _____Bedford v Old Paulines

Bedford v Old Paulines
Bridgend v Messter
Bristol v Western-super-Mare
Cardiff v Pontypridd
Ebbw Vale v Abertillery
Fylde v Preston G (2.0)
Gals v Melrose (2.0)
Giesgow H/K v Glessgow Acads (2.0)
Gosforth v Northern (2.15)
Hartlepool R v W Hartlepool (2.15)
Hawell v Jed-Forest (2.0)
Kendal v Vale of Lune (2.15)

Lisneill v London Welsh
L Irish v Old Milhillians (2:30)
Morley v Otley (2:15)
Moseley v Coventry
Newport v Newbridge
Northampton v Saracens Pontypool v Tredegar . Rugby v Numeaton
Sale v Broughton Park
Sellork v Kelso (2.0)
Swansea v Glamorgan W
Waterloo v Birkenhead Pk (2.15)

WEST: Club metches: Falmouth v Pennyn; Hayle v St. Ives; Launcescon v Okahampton; Newquey Homess v Char-man s XV; Penzance-Newlyn v Truro; Redruth v Camborne; Weitington v Wivelscombe; Weits v President's XV; Winscombe v Cheddar. RELAND: Jack Kyle Cap: Ballyment v

RUGBY LEAGUE STÜNES AITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Casselord v Hull RR (12.30), Feetherstone v Weissfield (11.30); Laeds v Halfax (11.30); Oldnem v Saltord; St Heiens v Wigen; Werrington v Widnes. Second division: Barrow v Carlesix; Chorley v Legh; Densitury v Eathy (11.30); Donesser v Sheffield (2.15); Huddersfield v Runcom (3.30); Fechale v Swinton; Writtenswen v Workingson (3.30); York v Mensillola (12.0).

SCHOOLS RUGBY

Backs on mark for **Brighton**

By Michael Stevenson

The exploits of Ampleforth, probably the outstanding side in he British Isles, are well known. Equally meritorious was Brigh-ton College's remarkable record of 15 wins from 15 matches and a points tally of 425 for and 71 geainst. It is sad that these two against. It is san that these two fine schools could not meet. The Brighton forwards could handle like backs but the backs scored 63 of the 79 tries scored.

scored 63 of the 79 tries scored. Cranleigh (away 8-6) and St Pant's (away 7-4), were easily the most demanding games that Brighton played. The schools "player of the year" award was won by C N Gates, who was greatly helped in his excellent performance at stand-off half by his scrum half, R H D Mann. The too try scorer with 15 tries. The top try scorer, with 15 tries, was ANT Dunber, who also

tackled devastatingly.
Llandovery's excellent season has been rewarded by selection of four of their fine team for the Wales 18 group side: Luc Evans at full back. Matthew Lewis at stand-off half. Owain Lloyd, normally a lock but selected by Wales at blind side and lan Jones, a centre.

King's Macclesfield, the only side to defeat Rossall this winter, have had a splendid

season. They lost two matches, with 13 wins out of 15. Their two losses were against QEGS, Wakefield (15-8) and their last match of the term, Solibull (149). King's had light young
forwards and very good backs.
Rendcomb College, from
Gloucestershire, a small boarding establishment, turn out 11 ing establishment, turn out 11 teams every Saturday and have earned eight wins at first XV level from 14 matches. The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School, for 11- to 16-year-olds, has had another wonderful season. They won all 12 games, scoring 388 points to 141 conscoring 388 points to 141 con-ceded. No victories will have pleased them more than their high-scoring wins against Christ College, Brecon (30-26) and Millfield (22-11).

Rival Boston race attaches the big names to its pay-roll

London finds it a struggle to coax marathon elite

By Pat Butcher Athletics Correspondent

in New York and Charlie Spedding's sixth place in the Olympic race has helped keep Britain in the forefront of marathen running. The country's premier event, the London marathon, is in danger, however, of hitting the wall' despite the massive injection of cash from its new engages.

its new sponsors.

ADT is putting up £2 million over the next three years, with additional funding for attracting top performers, all of which amounts to almost double what Mars, the previous spousors put in. But there looks like being a relative dearth of class athletes available to run in London

available to run in Loudon, despite the early amouncement that Lism Martin, women's Otympic silver medal winner, would be in the lineap.

It had been hoped by the marathen organizers that they could have a big pre-Christmas Press conference to announce the coup of landing the men's Otympic champion. Gelindo Bordin. But it all fell through when Bordin confirmed that he had signed to run in Boston on April 17, six days before London next year. next year.

Bordin is not the only top

marathoner to prefer Boston, whose organizers, thanks to the John Hancock corporation, have cornered the market.
John Hancock, one of the John Filipook, one of the biggest insurance companies in the United States, took over the title sponsorship of Boston last year, with an injection of \$10m for five years. They then became subsidiary sponsors of the New York and Los Angeles marathons, and quietty went about thons, and quietly went about signing up the world's top marathoners, whom, under the guise of company employees, who give 'running clinics' occa-sionally, then compete in at least two of the three Stateside mara-

thous in the next two years.

The list of 'employees' is

impressive: Joan-Benoit Samuelsoa, 1984 Olympic



Brinkmanship: Plaatjes may champion, and well worth ber alleged \$250,000 fee, since she is the only world class US marathoner of either ser, Bordin and Rosa Mota, the present Olympic champions; John Trency, 1984 Olympic silver medal winner; and Jones, who got \$70,000 simply to run New York, and whose projected emigration to live near Boston cannot be unconnected with the Hancock deal.

All of which has left London in such a tizzy that the organizers have been reduced to inviting Mark Planties, news of which will come as something of a masty surprise to the Zola Budd appreciation society. Planties is a black South African who has been given clearance by

who has been given clearance by The Athletics Congress, the United States governing body for athletics, to compete while awaiting US nationality.

Despite already seeming more of a fixture in the United States than Budd was in Britain — his wife and child are with him in Chicago, where he has a job as a physiotherapist — Plastjes has

had a couple of false starts to his American career. His participa-tion in Los Angeles lest March, when he finished third, was delayed until two days before the race when he finally got TAC

Then, even though he did not intend competing, it was strongly rumoured that his mere presence in Boston last year was sufficient to divert the Ethioplans to Rotterdam (the same day as London), where Belanych Diasamo set the world best time of Zir Gam 58sec.

The Ethiopians have never patronized London (possibly due to the Budd situation) and the good contacts which Dave Bedford, assistant race director of London, has with the Kenyan federation may turn sour if

London, has with the Kenyan federation may turn sour if Planties does come.

To make matters worse, the London organizers cannot even rely on the top British, since their race will not be the selection event for the next major champlonship, the Commonwealth Cames in a distant February, 1900. distant February, 1990.

Ice hockey is a sport that lends itself to statistics and in Gordon Wade the British game has a statistician who is both enthusiastic and accurate.

Our correspondents' reviews of the statistical who is both enthusiastic and accurate.

West Indies struggle as Australia hit a rich seam of success

Australia had fair reason to be ing was better than bad. Only seem to think is his phrase. satisfied at the end of the first one went down, Logic being day's play in the third Test let off at slip by Taylor, and match here against West Indies, if not quite as much as their supporters liked to think When West Indies were 68 for no wicket, not a quarter of an hour before lunch, Australia would no doubt have settled for a closing score of 245 for eight, but they had a helpful pitch to bowl on.

There was no play yes-terday, but instead of the Christmas sunshine which Australia had been so much hoping for it was torrentially wet and tropically humid Rather than lying out in the open, having the life sapped out of it, the pitch had a sweaty day under the covers. As it played on Saturday, and now still might today, I doubt whether Australia would have lasted beyond tea-time, had they been batting. Border knew what he was doing when he put West Indies in.

in town

The way to the ground can be a stroll through what might well be St James Park. An hour before play started on Saturday the grass there sparkled with dew. That the West Indian innings was still intact after an hour's play was due to some wonderfully adroit batting by Groenidge and Haynes. The ball bounced enough for Greenidge to take a nasty knock on his left forearm from Hughes. Much later Dujon got a crack on the hand and Walsh another which rang an early Christmas peal.

Batting was, in fact, awk-ward enough for the eight West Indian wickets to fall while only 131 runs were being scored. From 68 for none they were reduced to 199 for eight before Ambrose, predictably untroubled by the knee that had been so much photographed last week, and Walsh added an unbeaten 46. Coming from so low in the batting order, these were runs which rather took the edge off

that was not costly. Border held his 110th and 111th Test catches, which took him past Hammond and Simpson. Only Greg Chappell (123) and Cowdrey (120) are ahead of him now. They are, or were, all slip fielders, of course, and it was there that Border caught both of his on Saturday and where Taylor and Jones

caught theirs.
The first of Border's was a quick, thick edge from Rich-

Scoreboard

terson to bat. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-68, 2-68, 3-114, 4-137, 5-147, 6-186, 7-185, 6-199.

AUSTRALIA: "A R Border, G R Marsh, D.C. Boon, 71 M Jones, G M Wood, S R Waugh, †1 A Healy, P L Taylor, T M Alderman, C J McDermott, M G Hughes.

ards, who was sparring at Waugh. Richards had looked as though he could not quite be bothered. But the theory that he is finding concentration difficult these days would be of more encouragement to bowlers if his first-class average for the tour were not 78. Border threw himself for-

ward at second slip to catch Hooper, whose batting displays some of the ease and, elegance of the great Frank Worrell. The expertise of Haynes and Greenidge and the style of Hooper were the features of the day for West Indies until Ambrose and Walsh came along.

Alderman brought discipline to the Australian attack, though he found that his outswing took him, more often 13 when, to their obvious than he intended, wide of the surprise and relief, Ambrose For once Australia's catch- off stump "corridor", which I and Walsh trooped off.

Waugh's best balls were as good as anyone's, but he did give rather a lot away. McDermott did his stuff with: two good wickets.

It deserved a much better

crowd than the 24,246 who turned up. The last time fewer people watched the opening day of the corresponding Test match was in 1973, when New Zealand were the visitors. Last year, also against New Zealand, 51,087 turned up on the first day, but that was Boxing Day, not Christmas Eve, as it was two years ago when 58,203 saw Gatting's side bowl Australia out for 141 at the start of the fourth Test. If today's crowd, assuming play is possible, is below 50,000, with Australia still well in the match, it will bo disappointing.

Although the authorities here have addressed themselves to the over-rate, the formula they have como up with for this series really is scatty. On Saturday, for example, play ended at six o'clock on a lovely evening, and with enough light left for another 90 minutes cricket. Of the 90 overs that should have been bowled by then, only 83 had been. But because the batsmen are given the option of coming off at six o'clock, Ambrose and Walsh, much as they were enjoying themselves, chose to do so, and that was it.

Being seven overs short of the "mandatory" 90, Australia have laid themselves open to a fine, as West Indies invariably do. Why the umpires should not be empowered to have told Australia to complete the overs there and then, the fine notwithstanding, is a mystery. Test cricketers don't care a damn about fines. If it suits them to dawdle they will. In the first hour on Saturday Australia bowled 15 overs; in the last they had got it down to 13 when, to their obvious

MOTOR RALLYING: MOTORCYLIST IS SERIOUSLY INJURED ONLY HOURS AFTER LEAVING PARIS



Arc lights: competitors enjoy a rare moment of peace as they drive through the dawn along the Champs Elysees at the start of the rally yesterday

Early casualty on the road to Dakar

A French motorcyclist competing in the 1988/89 Paris-Dakar Rally is in hospital in Toulouse, south-west France, suffering from severe head injuries after losing control of his 1,500cc Honda machine only hours after the infamously hazardous event becam vesterday.

began yesterday.
Jacques Langlois, aged 56, came off his machine yesterday afternoon as the rally moved through France en-route for today's practice stages in Barce-iona. Langlois was one of 155 riders competing in the eleventh Paris to Dakar.

The motorcycle competitors in the 6,900-mile rally are tra-ditionally the most susceptible to the crowded French roads to the crowded French roads which the rally has to negotiate before crossing the Mediterranean to the Sahara Desert. Thousands of spectators had lined the 750-mile route yesterday along the RN20 through Orleans, Chateanroux, Limoges, Toulouse and Perpignan, on the road to Spain.

The "home stage" which is

and a competitive section of the 18-day rally, is the stage dis-liked the most by the 2,000-strong Paris-Dakar circus. Exuberant spectators from antistrong Paris-Dakar circus. Exuberant spectators frequently step out into the path of on-coming vehicles to get the best view and photographs of their heroes. Two years ago, Ted Toleman and Barry Lee lost a wheel from their Range-Rover

spectators and competitors who have died on the Paris-Dakar, since it was first staged in 1978, stands at 26. News of the accident yesterday will make the organizers nervous and re-emphasize the dangers of such a challenge to the already-circumand nearly careered into a crowd. There was an andible sigh of relief last night when the field reached Barcelona.

spect competitors.

The first competitors to leave the Parc des Expositions in southern Paris in the pre-dawn

Esso extra boosts championship

Increased coverage of the Brit-ish Touring Car championship on television last season has already reaped its reward (An-drew Longmore writes). Esso, which has replaced the previous sponsors, Dunlop, has announced that it will be invest-ing a total of almost half a

million pounds in the first year of its sponsorship next season.

The Esso deal, initially for two years, will mean increased prize-money in all groups of the

13-round championship. BBC's Grandstand programme will again provide coverage throughout the season. With its extensive use of in-car cameras and occasional commentary from the drivers, the coverage proved so successful last season that viewing figures matched those

for the Grand Prix highlights. 'Improved television coverage and Esso's commitment will give the championship a much higher profile next year," Andy

FOOTBALL: REPORT PAINTS A GLOOMY PICTURE FOR SMALLER CLUBS

of Christmas morning were the gargantnan support trucks, laden with every conceivable spare needed to keep the 396 competition cars and bikes runcompetition cars and bikes run-ning as far as possible into the inhospitable desert of Tunisia, Libya, Niger, and Mali. The tracks will not be competing in the raily for the first time in several years — a direct result of the fatal accident last year when a Daf whicle cart-wheeled at high speed killing its Dutch co-

to be one of the toughest years The championship is sched-uled to start at Oultoo Park on March 24 and includes rounds at the British Grand Prix at Silverstone on July 16 and the

the bravest battlers of the event, whose exploits are regularly over-shadowed by the rally drivers, left Paris at 6.15 a.m. The 155 riders will spend most of the 6,000 miles ahead of them on their feet, as their machines plough through the fine sand of deserts such as Tenere in Niger.

As a disappointingly small crowd looked on, the famous names and faces of the rally who will adorn the front process.

will adorn the front pages of Europe's newspapers until Jamary 14, were the last to leave Paris. Among them were the former Formula One drivers Jacques Laffite, Jacky Ickx and Clay Reggazzoni, and the former world rally champion, Ari

The starting order for the first competitive stage from Tankia into Libya on Thursday will be decided by a timed trial around a four-mile course in Barcelons on Boxing Day morning. The circus will then board the cross-Mediterranean ferry for Tunis.

Counties all make modest increases in their charges

By Richard Streeton

Every county club will increase year, the first time this has happened. None of the 1989 ing inflation, and several will continue to disappoint the Test and County Cricket Board's marketing pundits. They have marketing pendits. They have long preached that the counties under-sell themselves, especially those with Test match facilities.

Surrey has imposed the heavistrey has imposed the heave-est increase, a full member now paying £55, compared with £44 in 1988, representing a 25 per cent rise. Sussex, another club with financial worries, follows next with a 17 per cent increase (£35 to £41) and then comes Worcestershire 15 per cent (£39 to £45). Other counties acknowledge inflation and guard against it continuing to spiral by rounding their estimate slightly

shire raise their fall membership rate by 11 per cent, three counties by 10 per cent and the other nine clubs by smaller amounts. Nottinghamshire and Warwickshire - both Test match centres — make the lowest increases, 5.12 and 5.88 in percentage terms. The new subscriptions at Edghaston might have been higher if they had been discussed recently rather than last summer.

County committees always find it hard to gauge an accept-able rise in subscriptions, particularly in areas where incomes are lower than average.
For many years they tended to
try to avoid raising them. Nowadays, most find that 'a little and suddenly having to inflict a massive increase. Lancashire recenty learned this the hard

Lancashire estimates it cost it £100,000 at its annual meeting when members rejected the heavy increases proposed by the committee, who sought to put subscriptions on a more realistic level. Lancashire was undone by



hoped.

The advantages of county membership tend to vary. Common factors include a seat with a mon factors include a seat with a
good view, catering and bar
arrangements, which are usually
superior to those for the public,
and members receive a handbook and winter mailings. The
larger grounds often have
cricket libraries and masseums.

cricket libraries and moseums.
Facilities everywhere are gradually being improved and Hampshire, where subscriptions are higher than most, are conscious that more must be done for members as they plan their new ground at Southampton. Most people joining a county, though, merely regard their membership pass as a senson ticket. In round figures most counties have 50 days of first team cricket at home each summer and members only have to make 10 to 12 visits before they have recouped their

The TCCB seems justified when it argues that membership is more than reasonably priced.

a Essex, who use several grounds, do not have a category for country members. Sussex have no OAP members but a season ticket system exists, it cost £12 in 1986. a rule peculiar to the county that increases exceeding 10 per cent have to be approved by members. In every other county the committee alone decides subscription rates. So Lancashire's fall members will pay £34.60 this year instead of the £40 or £45 the committee had honed. cricket grounds, a season ticket for Manchester United at Old Trafford can cost between £87 and £122; at Nottingham Ferest

the cost is £108. For most counties the income from subscriptions is small com-pared with the sums received from the TCCB shareout of Test and tour receipts and the clubs's own marketing. An exception is Yorkshire, whose 9,800 membership, the second largest, brings in one third of the club's

> Lancashire with 12,500 has the largest membership. Their committee's ill-fated proposals on subscriptions stemmed from concern that membership income dropped from 30 per cent of total revenue in 1978 to 17.7 of total revenue in 1976 to 17.7 per cent in 1988. Further down the scale only 10 per cent of Derbyshire's income comes from its small 1,650 membership.

Every county has numerous different membership categories for individuals and firms. It makes exact comparisions be-tween them impossible.

making no secret By Louise Taylor

An agent

When Bobby Gould recently suggested that it is agents, rather

than wives, who represent the scourge of modern football, the person in mind.

Eric Hali organized the Wimbledon players' FA Cup final pool, master-minded tho transfers of Dave Beasant and Andy Thorn from Plough Lane to Newcastle United and repre-

Fashanu to an FA disciplinary hearing which resulted in the player receiving a £2,000 fine and a three-match suspension as the result of an after-match fracas with Viv Anderson, of Manchester United, in the Plough Lane tunnel.

After the verdict Hall said:

"Phone me tomorrow, I'm going home to make some money." He quickly sold the exclusive rights of the story to a tabloid newspaper: a good day's business.

One of the best-known and most successful football agents, Hall, aged 43, is a London-based entrepreneur who began by working on behalf of personal-ties in show business, where he retains extensivo interests.

Perhaps inevitably, his work often leads to a conflict of interests with managers.
Fashanu and Wise have been unsettled in SW19 this season and Gould blames their agent. Hall claims he is only looking after his clients' interests, although he admits that there is no room for compromise in pursuit of this goal.

"I have nn morals when it comes to looking after my clients," he said. "I would deal with the devil to get the best deal Such an uneomivocal stance

scuts an integrative stance sends shudders down the spines of managers and directors. However, Hall is not looking to curry favour in such quarters. "Sam Hammam [the chairman of Wimbledon] told me: You'll control like a contribution of the chairman of wimbledon] told me: You'll contribute the contribution of the chairman of wimbledon and the chairman of wimbledon and the chairman and the chairm spread like a cancer through my club. I've got ill-educated lads at Wimbledon but they will be educated by you."

League provided with more evidence on identity cards

By John Goodbody

The Football League has rereargnard attempt to dissuade the Government from making it compulsory for all supporters to carry identity cards from next

The Sir Norman Chester Centre for Football Research at Leicester University has delivered a report to the League warning that any national membership scheme is not a panacea against hooliganism, and also that many small clubs could face financial bardship, even driving some of them out

of business.

Although the report was commissioned by the League, the Centre's unrivalled reputation in the field forces it to be academically objective.

The report concludes: "We remain appoint concludes: "We remain appoint of the same and the same appoint of the same appointment of the same

remain unconvinced that a national scheme of this kind will 'solve' the hooligan problem outside grounds, or that it will be introduced with anything less than the near-chaos which occurred at some of the larger grounds in the 1987-88 season." There are fears that the teething troubles experienced then by Manchester United, in particular, could be repeated nation-

The Centre accepts that membership schemes "can reduce hooliganism" at and in the vicinity of grounds, and it cites the schemo at Luton, where away fans are banned to sup-

Bangor established a club record at the weekend by stretching their unbeaten run to nine games when sharing the points

port this contention. But it believes that a better system is a more regular use of all-ticket games with away supporters limited to members, as at Leeds

The Centre also agrees that the scheme, which is to be introduced to the House of Lords in January, will enable cinbs to gather detailed informa-tion about their supporters, which could be invaluable for marketing and research

But it adds that in operating the scheme at grounds where there has been little trouble in recent years, "the police, to say nothing of the clubs themselves, will almost certainly have as many problems in facilitating and operating the new membership arrangements as they would have had in enforcing crowd cootrol under the old

The Centre surveyed 91 League clubs (Swansea did not reply) for their responses on the partial membership schemes, which have been in operation for several years in designated parts of grounds. On balance, the report states, clubs seems to believe that membership has had a positive impact on hooliganism, especially inside the stadium. However, only 37.9 per cent are using their member-ship list for commercial pur-

scheme came from the Prime Minister's displeasure at the violence during the European championship finals in June.

The Centre, which is funded by the Football Trust, has produced a separate report on this championship after survey-ing 356 of the approximately Germany.

A total of 89 per cent of those surveyed were in some form of full-time work, thus adding to the evidence that there is not a significant level of the unemployed among football fol-

Although the Football Associ-ation tried to ensure that travelling fans had accommodation booked for the tournament, only 4 per cent of the supporters left Britain on a package tour with all accommodation booked. In fact, 30 per cent of the support-ers spent at least one night without accommodation, while some experienced up to two weeks on the streets.

More than half of those questioned saw trouble during the championship, and 61 per cent believed that provocation of the English by other support-ers as being 'very important' in causing disturbances, while 51 per cent believed that newspaper reports in England before the championship played an "important" role in the

Gibson nets a record for Bangor

By George Ace

headed home a cross from the lead on goal difference with left by Brown, and were a little Bangor in third place.

That is an unmistakable sign

in a 1-1 draw with Linfield at Clandeboye Road. It was a point which they deserved against a Linfield side who looked any-Twelve minutes from time Mooney landed in a heap after a tackle by Glendinning, the referee pointed immediately to the penalty spot and McEown sent Eachus the wrong way. thing but prospective league champions.

that last seasoo's cup and league winners are again firing on all cylinders after an unprecedented spell of injuries which saw at one time nine first-team players not available and a treatment room that resembled

Two weeks ago Linfield enjoyed a five-point cushion at the top of the Smirnoff Irish Legue; this morning reigning champions Glentoran, who defeated Carrick Rangers 4-0 at the Oval;

Davenport hoping to break duck

extra reason for wanting to score against Everton on his native former. Manchester United striker has not scored in the nine matches sinco ho joined Middlesbrough from Old Trafford although be has done more than enough in those ghames to earn a plaudit fro Bruce Rioch, the Middles-

"Davenport his contributed a lot to the team. He has led the line well and was brought down for penalties in Simod Cup ties against Oldham and Ports-mouth," Rinch said."You would normally expect his confidence to ebb a little hut in fact he has improved."

Davenport once played along-side Graemo Sharpe and Gary Stevens in Everton's A team before be joined Nottingham Forest as his first football league club. His two former clubs meet at Old Trafford 10day. Swindon Town have made a £50,000 bid for the Newcastle

United right back, John Cornwell, who has lost his first team place to the club's new signing Ray Ranson, signed last week from Birmingham City for • Dancaster Rayers have

strengthened their injury-hit squad for the holiday matches by signing two players on one-month loans. The Leeds right back, Vince Brockie and Everton's teensge midfield player, Tany Ward have both joined the fourth division club nn a temporary basis.

Aid for Armenia

Berne (AFP) — UEFA, European football's governing body, are to give 400,000 Swiss Francs (£150,000) to the Armenian football suthorities to help victims of the earthquake there.

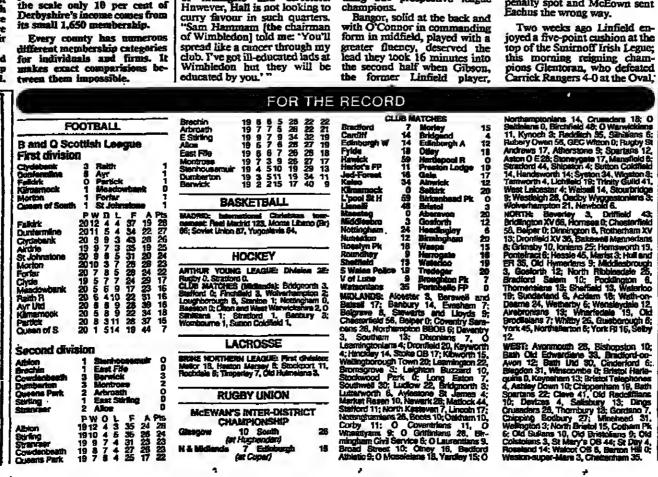
Crossword clue

One of the clues to The Times/Whitbread White Label Bitter sports jumbo crossword on page 37 of Saturday's paper was inadvertently omitted from some editions. The clue to 43 down should have read: A lasting feature of bowls (3).

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Long balls are a short cut to insolvency



From his position on the outside looking in at football, Lawrie McMenemy gives his verdict on the percentage game to Staart Jones, Football Correspondent

Those seeking value for admission money in today's programme should not delay. They should leave immediately for one of the first division fixtures which starts before noon. White Hart Lane is the place to be. The advice is offered by Lawrie McMenemy, himself now an

appreciative observer.

As n manager, he relished Boxing Day.

"I loved coming out of the tunnel to see a halo of cigar smoke around the ground At Grimsby, you could mistake that for a sea fret. If you got both of them together, you had no chance but there is always a estive mood. People don't so much mind

required increasingly hy spectators. An outsider since he left Sunderland 20 months ago, he agrees reluctantly that

the game is losing its sense of fun and imagination. The colour is fading to be replaced by bland predictability.

"I hesitate to criticise but I have

spoken to managers socially and they houestly admit that the standards have levelled off. When pushed, they concede that the standards have gone down rather than up. Five years ago nearly all the teams had outstanding individuals. Now there are not so many.

"More people are playing the percentage game. You can't argue with the facts. If you keep kicking the ball into the opposing penalty area, pushing np and picking up the pieces, you will make more goalscoring opportunities but it is not a pretty sight, is it?

"The beautiful game, as Pele called it, had a precise build-up that was pleasing to watch. It involved players who could control the ball in tight situations and pass it to one of their own men. The teams that play like that throughout the "More people are playing the percent-

teams that play like that throughout the season will always come out on top.

"The championship, as dear old Bill

Shankly — God bless him — used to say, is a marathon. The day the first division is won by a side playing the percentage game, football in this country will have changed dramatically and I'm sure the

crowds will go down".
Not at White Hart Lane, the bome of the class that gave McMesseny "great memories". He is convinced that their key figure is the impish Gascoigne, who could raise their challenge as well as their gates. "He has great talent and a sense of humour. A good manager allows that to flourish on the pitch. All the player has to add is a sense of

sponsibility.
"He and Terry Venables are a perfect match and Gascoigne could go on to be one of the great entertainers. Waddle has matured as well and you would hope that a stylish team like that — you can't complain about their lack of outstanding

individuals — is successful".

Luton Town, their visitors today, will attempt to delay the process and McMenemy recognises that they are

First division table

"the eternal survivors. They get stick because of their pitch, their chairman

and their stand against away supporters but they keep bouncing back.

"Foster, Captain Courageous, has done a magnificent job for them. At The Dell years ago I told him that he would

never make it as a centre-forward, that he

road to Portsmouth. In Si John converted him into a centre-half and everybody knows the rest.

Wimbledon and Millwall, who collide today at Plough Lane, have profitted from the percentage game. They and other small clubs, McMeoemy points out, have also benefitted recently from the production of the percentage game. the reduction of clubs, and consequently of the programme, in the first division.

"In the past Norwich, if they won at Anfield on a Saturday, would still be running around in a state of euphoria during their midweek game. Now the players can afford to revel in their glory, recover from injuries and come down to earth in time for their next fixture."

Charlton Athletic could be wandering around in n heady haze for a few days i they beat Arsenal this afternoon, for instance, but McMenemy considers their apponents to be "one of the best southern contenders for a long time".

Davis on sidelines again as Arsenal seek the summit

The limp punishment handed out last week by the Football Association to Messrs Fashanu, Anderson and Dennis ought to be enough to make Paul Davis turn to a life of crime. The genteel Arsenal midfield player is left to contemplate the injustice of it all as he sits out his fourteenth consecutive game today since his record nine match suspen-

sion began on October 22. Given the gross inconsis-tency which exists in disciplinary decision-making, one was inclined to sympathize with Arsenal's refusal to allow television news cameras access to their London derby game against Charlton Athletic at Selhurst Park. The official reason put forward to denying ITN coverage of this Boxing Day fixture was that they feared crowd trouble and the slanted reporting of such.

But the fact that they have denied all oews access since Davis was caught by news cameras punching an opponent at Highbury on September 17, makes them just as the cost of football's failure to guilty as the five unjust men at Lancaster Gate sweeping the dirt under the carpet.

If only more people in the have put their team in better game showed the same level of order this season than Arthur who promptly invited Paul Miller to practise ejecting his saliva at some other club after spitting at an opponent. Charlton never even waited for any FA commission to confirm Miller's guilt. Queen's Park Rangers please

While Arsenal have largely managed to get by without harder to recapture his match fitness and it is for this reason that he is again overlooked

Again Arsenal should not want for an incentive; victory would enable most people's championship favourites to go top for the first time in 13 months, albeit only until Norwich City carry out a more acceptable kind of assault before the cameras tomorrow in the televised game against West Ham United. Charlton have Williams, Lee and Pates

a vailable again. One can only pray that the FA adjudicators, who handed out such meagre penalties at last week's hearings, get a full view of the ghost of Christmas future at the Baseball Ground where casual spectators

More football, page 23

requiring a £10 stand ticket for the game against Liverpool will have to pay £23 including cluh membership. Such will be put its home in order years

managers, though, Cox. While making even higger scrooges out of his Derby County defenders, he has succeeded in turning Saunders forward than he was at Oxford

How Rush, his fellow Welshman, must wish he Anderson, who having escould say the same since his transfer from Juventus. Saunders, bought by the astute Maurice Evans for £60,000 then put out of the game for from Brighton as a replace- two months following a disc

At 27, Davis is finding it Manor Ground, may yet succeed Rush in the Wales team if their respective stars continue much looger on the same

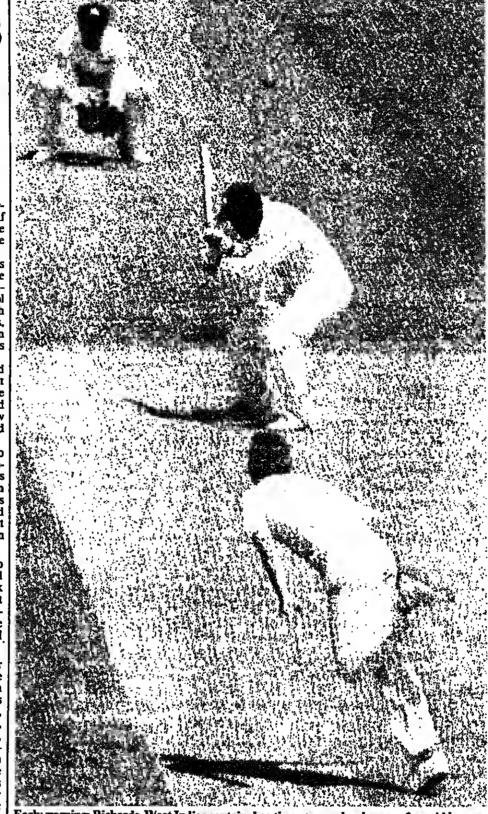
trajectory.
Today's meeting invites another comparison and the sternest test yet of the chempions' failing attack. Nichol and Molby, who have both recovered from ankle injuries, are ready to help end an unthinkable run of four games without a win.

Even Newcastle United boast a better record than that and their fortunes could be poised to take another upward swing with the arrival of a new firm at full back, Sansom and Ransom.

Mirandinha is expected to be left shivering on the side-lines at Hillsborough as O'Neill, the young Northern Ireland international, is pushed forward from midfield to attack after saving a point last week with two goals upon his arrival as substitute.

Everton are also poised to push Steven, their England midfield player into attack against Middlesbrough at Goodison Park after an encouraging performance there in midweek against Millwall in the Simod Cup.

Blackmore is Manchester United's latest casualty for the home game with Nottingham Forest. He joins a list of crocks which includes Whiteside, McGrath, Duxbury, Gibson, Garton and, not forgetting, caped with a one-match suspension for his part in the Wimbledon tunnel fracas, was inspiration when it mattered, ment for Aldridge at the operation on Thursday.



Early warning: Richards, West Indies captain, has time to evade a bouncer from Alderman

Double bill awaits those prepared to cross Pennines

By Keith Macklin

watch two holiday games to-day, provided they are pre-pared to cross the Pennines. Yorkshire's holiday derbies have morning kick-offs, and there should be just enough time to get over to Lancashire for an attractive game.

Castleford, the unhesten league leaders, should maintain both their unbeaten record and their lead by accounting for Hull Kingston Rovers, who are struggling. Leeds should have little difficulty in retaining their second place, for Halifax have had an sppalling recent run of results and should not cause too much trouble in the West Riding derby at Headingley.

The sternest battle is likely to be at Post Office Road, where Featherstone Rovers raise their game for this and Wakefield Trinity meet in match.

Rugby League enthusiasts can promises to be a full-blooded relegation contest. In the afternoon games, top

of the bill is St Helens against Wigan at Knowsley Road.
This will produce the biggest crowd of all the Boxing Day fixtures, and throws together two of the league's leading sides in a match which is crucial to both. St Helens need to restore their supporters' faith after recent slips, while defeat for Wigan would probahly end their prospects of making a serious challenge for the championship.

Widnes, in third place, always dread a visit to Warrington, where the home side produce something special in this traditional holiday fixmre. Warrington, under their new Australian coach, Brian Johnson, are having an unhappy season, but they always

a traditional match, which Focus on Castleford, page 22

Curran bows out with a record 10

By Peter Bryan

Paul Curran, Britain's top road man for the last four years and double Commouwealth Games champion. took his leave of amateur racing in classic style yesterday when he set a new Clarion 10 miles time trial at

Saltburn. The Stockton rider, aged 27, rides few time trials during the season but this particular event bas been a Christmas final miles of a road race and Day "must" for him since he

He won yesterday's trial in 22min 57sec to break his own

challenger was a local rider. Neville Jackson, who finished 1min 13sec in arrears. After his win Curran, who

turns professional for the Percy Bilton team on January 1, said: "I shall miss amateur good spirit among the riders". Curran, who for the last four

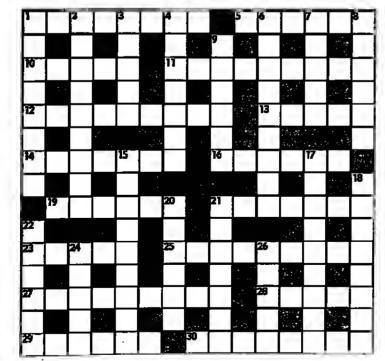
years has declined a professional career, is the master of the lone breakaway in the will certainly use that tactic next year, initially."Pro racing will be different I know," he said, "but I want to settle record by 17 seconds, a mid-winter time with which he was make a mark among a lot of well pleased in view of the riders for whom I have breezy conditions. His closest respect."

MANCHESTER

HIGHEST & LOWEST

YESTERDAY

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,862



1 Held back, being rather un-

5 The depths reached by an asinine craftsman? (6).

10 Stuff taken from the ground should be put back (5). 11 Old Greek man possibly holding contest over (9).

12 Brief break for one of the basehail team (9). 13 Some faith-healer, talkative and watchful (5).

14 He turns out to be the winner by 16 Fruit is set in wet weather (6). 19 Dressing right as part of the ser-

21 Nobody can recall being affected by it (7). 23 An imprisoning for offering protection (5).

25 Workers following political lead-er they support (9). 27 Love may be seen as a patho-logical condition! (9).

28 Tote's mistake causes argument 29 Getting fish into a pen is very hard (6).

30 Submitted when the umpire made a wrong decision (8).

DOWN

Salad food sustaining an artistic

person? (8). 2 Arranging a loan isn't a bloomer Give up and watch when upset

4 He demands payment from a one-time player (7). 6 Working man getting his knife into someone (9). 7 A pupil in this colour might well

appear smart (5). 8 Very small record (6). 9 Bit of a swine 10 get through such a collection of food! (6).

15 Chance it perhaps if over 50 — it's quite practical (9). 17 A way article may be squeezed in between right now (9). 18 Step over a weapon, knowing it could gain one access (8).

20 Material assistance will be rewarded (6). Marshal mounted gunners on the firing area (7). 22 Hector could be Sarah's undoing

Coacise crossword, page 14

24 Loot for the sovereign in general 26 Problem children (5).

WORD-WATCHING A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct? By Philip Howard

a. A seat for a second rider b. Autumnal leaf fall c. A little epic CAPELLET

a. A woman's short cloak b. A lump oo a horse
 c. A little chapel BUDDHI L. Intuitive knowledge b. Effigies of Buddha L. A flowering shrub STANDISH A light infantry order
 Offhand and standoffish

Answers on page 14

EPYLLION

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 17,861 will appear next Saturday WEATHER

ABROAD

HIGH TIDES

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12.39 6.27 5.34

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have sunny intervals and, in the west, showers, some of which will be quite heavy with snow on the higher ground. Some of the brighter weather may creep into northern England but for the most part much of England and Wales will be cloudy with some rain. Outlook: rain in the north; mainly dry and very mild in

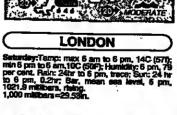
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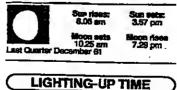
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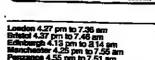
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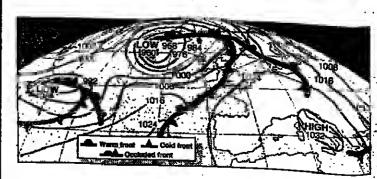
New York: The Dow Jones Industrie average clased up 8.57 at 2168.53.











an supplied by Met Office

● TRAVEL: JAN MORRIS IN SWEDEN 26

PICTURE QUESTIONS

This year's most unusual picture. Is it: (a) A stunt which raised \$2,500 for the Children in Need

appeal?

(b) A Russlen film?

(c) A Greenpeace protest? (d) All in a day's work for Jersmy Beadle?

B What is the Prince of Wales propering to do? (a) Visit a Securicor warehouse?

(b) Give his father a good talking to? (c) Race a veteran car? (d) Address the RIBA?

At what event was this man pictured?
(a) Superbown?
(b) The Olympic Games?
(c) An Elton John concert?
(d) The Republican Party
Convention in New Orleans?

D What are all these people doing?
(a) Being married by the Moonies?
(b) Opening the Olympic Games in Seoul?

(c) Meking an advertisement for Pepsi Cola

in Moscow? (d) Taking part in a choral festival in Peking?

E Has Home Secretary Douglas Hurd just: (a) Inspected police cells in Northern Ireland? (b) Opened a prison in Yorkshire?

(c) Voted against the Government? (d) Visited the strong room at the Royal Mint?

SATURDAY DECEMBER 24 1988



Who said it? Who got it wrong? Who denied it? George Hill asks 50 questions to discover whether

the past year has really been one to remember

WHO SAID WHAT

- Who sakt: "I'm going to do it for my mum"?

 (a) Michael Dukakis? (b) The Duke of York? (c) Ben Johnson? (d) Mark Thatcher?
- 2 Who said: "I wish I had been Bob Geldof"? Paul McCartney? (b) Placido Domingo? (c) The Prince of Wales?
- Who said: "I must look sombre. I don't want to be photographed grinning"?

 (a) Mike Gatting after latenight indiscretions in a hotel? Who said: "I must look (b) Peter Wright on hearing that the Government had spe £500,000 failing to suppress Spycatcher? (c) David Owen on hearing of a collapse of Liberal-SDP
- (d) Gerry Adams on hearing that Sinn Feln members were to be banned from the air?
- 4 Who said of whom:

 "He's not been able to
 take responsibility for
 anything, and I think that's
 really his problem"?
 (a) Nichael Dukakis of
 George Bush?
 (b) Nigel Lawson of Sir Alan
 Watters?
 (c) Norman Tabble of Chicae (c) Norman Tebbit of Prince (d) Glenys Kinnock of Neil Kinnock?
- Who said: "The belief Who said: "The belief in our fatherland is at stake. You can trust me"? (a) Mikhali Gorbachov? (c) General Pinochet? (d) Gary Hart?
- 6 Who said: "I would walk miles for a bacon sandwich"? (a) Sir Clement Freud?
- Edwina Currie? (c) Roy Jenkins? (d) Rabbi Julia Neuberger? (e) The Princess of Wales? Who said: "There have
- to be some opportunities for the nouveaux riches?'
 (a) Baron Thyssen?
 (b) Peter Clowes?
 (c) Nicholas Ridley?
 (d) The Dean of Hereford?
- Who said, of a shooting incident in a Lendon street: "It was just a little problem"?

 (a) The Metropolitan Police (b) The Cuban ambassador? (c) Sylvester Stallona? (d) The Queen?
- 9 Who said: "Whenever I drive in Southern England today the place is being tom up and tom apart"? (a) The Prince of Wales? (b) Sir Philip Powell? (c) Michael Heseltine? (d) Nicholes Ridley?

CORRIDORS OF POWER

- 10 On what occasion did Neil Kinnock lead a choral rendering of Jerusalem and propose: "Let's form an escape (a) in Buckingham Palace, when summoned for a meeting of privy counsellors? (b) in Transport House, when summoned for e dressing-down from Ron Todd?
- (c) When held at gunpoint by security forces in Zimbabwe? (d) At the Liangollen Eisteddiod?

- 11 What was Mrs
 Thatcher doing with a sack in St James's Park
- (a) Wondering when to give it to Nigel Lawson? (b) Covering up an official secret? (c) Clearing litter that had been specially scattered for the cocasion? (d) Collecting horse manure for the Dulwich garden, after the Horse Guards had
- 12 Which council
 considered buying for
 S million property it sold
 for 15p?
 (a) Brent? (b) Lambeth? (c) Liverpool?

passed by?

- 13 Why was the Lord Chancellor suspended from communion by his Church? (a) For attempting to raise
- the Devil by necromantic rites? (b) For attending the funeral of a Roman Catholic colleague? coueague?
 (c) For appointing a Roman
 Catholic judge?
 (d) For threatening to
 abolish the barristers' closed
 shop?
- 14 Who attacked "sharp-suited, cordiess-telephone sociatism"? (a) Arthur Scargill? (b) Ron Todd?
- (c) Michael Foot? (d) Derek Hatton? 15 Who claimed that the Queen sent him birthday greetings when she hadn't? (a) Robert Maxwell? (b) Lord St John of Fawsley? (c) President Ceausescu? (d) Ex-president Idi Amin?
- 16 Who said of whom:
 ever be described as a
 popular politician"?
 (a) Nancy Reagan of Mrs
 Gorbachov?
 (b) Lord Whitelaw of Mrs Thatcher? (c) Mrs Thatcher of Mrs Currie? (d) General Zia of Benazir
- 17 Who found himself landing in South Africa by mistake? (a) Neil Kinnock? (b) The Pope? (c) Nelson Mandela? (d) Graham Gooch?
- 18 Which minister said of a Government move: "It was a cock-up"?
 (a) Home Office minister opening hours?
 (b) Environment Secretary
 Nicholas Riddey, over Green Belt policy? (c) Health Secretary Kenneth Clarke, over nurses pay regrading? (d) Chancellor Nigel Lawson, over his Interview on means testing and
- 19 Who said: "This is not so much a party conference as a hothouse in a goldfish bow!"? (a) Sir Robin Day? (b) David Coleman? (c) Nell Kinnock? (d) Robert MacLennan?
- 20 Who said: "The Soviet Union is not in the business of making unilateral gestures"?

 (a) George Shuitz?

 (b) Michael Heseitine?

 (c) Marshal Akhromeyev.

 Soviet Chief of Staff? (d) Monsignor Bruce Kent?

- SPORTING LIFE 21 How many of the following led England on the cricket field this year?
 (a) Mike Gatting?
 (b) John Emburey?
 (c) Chris Cowdrey?
- 22 Against which of the tollowing has England won a soccer international this year?
 (a) Saudi Arabia?
 (b) Colombia?
 (c) Sweden?
 (d) Holland?

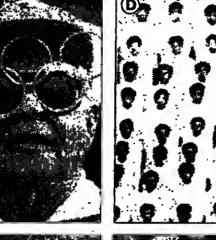
(d) Graham Gooch? (e) Derek Pringle?

- 22 Who said: "If you've as well lose to the better player on the final day, and pass the torch"? (a) Daley Thompson? (b) Anatoly Karpov? (c) Martina Navratilova? (d) Boris Becker?
- 24 Who spent £3.5
 million preparing for a
 race, and then wasn't
 knylted to take part?
 (a) Peter de Savary?
 (b) Sebastian Coe?
 (c) Richard Branson?
 (d) Sheikh Mohammed?
- 25 Who said: "Just being part of the Olympics was fantastic. Other countries would never have allowed me to take part"?
 (a) Weightlifter Naim
 Suleymanogu?
 (b) Zola Budd?
 (c) Eddle Edwards?
 (d) Captain Mark Phillips?
- 26 Of whom was it said: "She's beautiful, but she walks like Robert Mitchum"? (a) Florence Griffith Joyner? (b) Gabriela Sabatini? (c) Fatima Whitbread? (d) Monique Berlioux?
- 27 Who said: "This country just doesn't breed winners"? (a) Sandy Lyle? (b) Peter May? (c) Annabel Croft? (d) Colin Moynman?
- 28 What event did
 L'Osservatore
 Romano, the official
 Vatican newspaper, call "a
 vulgar display of power
 and wealth"?
 (a) The Olympic Games?
 (b) The Paris-Dakar Rally?
 (c) Henley Royal Regatta?
 (d) The America's Cup?
 - FUR, FEATHER
- AND FIN 29 Which of the following political animals was still alive at the end of the year?
 (a) Wilberforce, the
 Downing Street cat?
 (b) Ted, David Blunkett's guide-dog? (c) Dizzie, Michael Foot's terrier?
- (d) Ron Todd's Biackpool Conference dinosaurs? 30 While digging channels through the lice to rescue trapped whales in the Arctic, how did Eskimo workers keep up their strength?
 (a) With a liquor brewed from fermented seaweed?
 (b) With rips of whiskey contributed by a publicity-seeking distillery?
- seeking distillery? (c) By singing shanties in Aleut? (d) By chewing dried

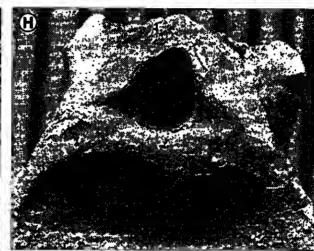




- 3 1 Was a former Archbishop forced to resign as a patron of the RSPCA after: (a) Hunting with the Quorn?
 (b) Clubbing two captive pigs to deatin?
 (c) Participating in an Animal Liberation Front incendiary raid? (d) Saying in a sermon that he supported vivisaction? (a) Wearing a sealskin
- 32 About what did Ronald Reagen say: "I have never made a decision based on it, nor will I ever?"
- (a) Oliver North's advice?
 (b) George Bush's advice?
 (c) An astrologer's advice?
 (d) A close reading of background papers
- 33 Who tried to shoot a dog, but shot its owner by mistake?
 (a) A hunt aaboteur?
 (b) An RSPCA inspector? (c) Sir Ranulph Fiennes? (d) The Duke of Edinburgh?
- 34 Which of the periarthritis of the elbow while retracing Hannibal's route across the Alps? (a) lan Botham? (b) Dido? (c) Salammbo? (d) Tali? (a) Kathy Botham?
- 35 Mrs Dorothy Walker left the RSPCA £2.7 million, its largest legacy ever, and asked it to find a home for which pet? (a) Pussie, a cat? (b) Water Bird, a budgerigar? (c) Michael, a Tibetan (d) Neddy, a donkey?
- STAGE, SCREEN AND PRINT
- 36 Which of these films did not include an evil plot against rabbits?
 (a) Who Framed Roger
 Rabbit?
 (b) Fatal Attraction?
 (c) Jean de Floratia?
 (d) Babette's Feast?
- 37 Who collaborated in an opera in which all but one of the characters eventually freeze to death?
 (a) Ted Hughes?
 (b) Doris Lessing?
 (c) Ofivier Messaien?
 (d) Andrew Lloyd Webber?
- 38 A major work by this year's winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature is banned in his own country. (a) Czechoslovakia? (b) Egypt? (c) Pakistan? (d) South Africa?
- 39 The inclusion of passages from which work in an A level paper caused protests: (a) Squirrel Nutkin? (b) Mein Kampf? (c) Lady Chatterley's Lover? (d) Wittgenstein's Tractatus?







F Who has just sold these boots? (b) Christie's? (c) Elton John? (d) Gerry Cottle's Circus? G What is happening here?
(a) An Olympic avent?
(b) The filming of Who Dares Wins II, to be released early next year? (c) The Israeli security service in training?
(d) Merchant bankers on an adventure course?

> H This went on display this year. What is it? (a) A Henry Moore put on show at the Tate? (b) A dinosaur vertebra put on show at the Natural History (c) A fossil discovered by engineers working on the Channel tunnel? (d) A meteorite which crashed in the Soviet Union?

40 The exclusion of which of these authors from a Government-49 The vessel Boukephalas was in the news because it was: (a) The ship in collision with the cruise liner Jupiter, which sank off Piraeus? (b) Refused entry by ports in Britain, France, Italy and of toxic waste?

reading list for children caused protests? (a) Ted Hughes? (b) Spike Mittigan?

(d) Charles Dickens?

was carrying: (a) A Fliotax?

(b) Picasso?

41 When Prince Edward arrived for his first day in his new job, he

(b) A packet of tea-bags? (c) Yomping boots? (d) A copy of Spotlight?

42 Which of the following was the subject of three

biographies this year? (a) Bernard Shaw?

c) Robert Maxwell?

(d) Truman Capote?

b) Dr Barnardo?

Compound?

(c) Dr Seuss? (d) Dr J. Collis Browne's

forests?
(a) David Bellamy?
(b) Barry Humphries?
(c) Clive James?
(d) Clive Jenkins?

45 What proportion of active Church of England members, in an opinion poll, said that their vicar's views on the

ordination of women would influence them "not at

46 Who became a grandmother this year for the first time?
(a) Princess Margaret?
(b) Jacqueline Onassis?
(c) Joan Collins?
(d) Esther Rantzen?

47 Who broke the Portland Vase in the British Museum?

(a) Cleaners knocking it

it together again better? (c) A mentally III visitor called William Lloyd, with a

demonstrator demanding the

return of the Elgin Marbles

48 Magdalene College, Cambridge, was the last Oxbridge college to

(b) Admit women students?

(d) Mail an appeal for funds

(e) Sell its list of alumni to City brokers touting for clients?

do what?
(a) Install a contraceptive

dispenser in the Junior Common Room?

(c) Make its own promotional video?

to all its alumni?

down with a ladder?

walking stick? (d) An unidentified

(a) 69 per cent? (b) 42 per cent? (c) 27 per cent? (d) 11 per cent?

THE PASSING SCENE

43 Who decided to drop the title "Doctor"?
(a) Dr David Owen?

44 Who left Britein to settle in Tasmenia and work to save the rain

eria because of its cargo (c) Peter Clowes's £1.47 million yacht, seized in Gibraltar by his creditors? (d) Caught by storms in tha irish Sea, and dropped overboard its deck cargo of Trident submarine parts worth 2600,000?

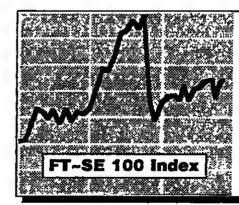
50 Who rowed with his daughter over unsuitable boyfriends?
(a) Nigel Lawson? (b) Lord Snowdon? (c) Mick Jagger? (d) Archbishop Runcle?

LIBERTY

The compilers of the first five correct entries drawn will each receive a Liberty's hamper, which will include fruit cake, Earl Grey tea and smoked salmon, delivered to the winners' homes

To enter the competition, write down the number of each question followed by the letter beside the answer which you think is correct (e.g. 1,a 2,d; and for the picture questions, A,2 etc).

Send your solutions and name and address to Ouiz of the Year, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, to reach us by first post on Monday, January 9, 1989. The winners and the answers will appear in The Times on Saturday, January 14.



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I would like to discuss my investment needs.

TELEPHONE NO (work)...... (home)..... These markets are extremely volatile and investors must remember that the value of their investments can fall as well as rise.

The mystery of time and origins

How does any novel begin? First Light was so much part of my own concerns and attitudes that it is almost impossible now to disentangle the strands of its origin. Certainly parts of it emerged from my own favourite pastime — idly looking out of the window.

I live for some of the time in a cottage oo the side of a valley, at that mysterious point where Dorset and Devon meet, and over many months I have been looking from the window of my study across the valley, and speculating about the race which once inhabited this region. Far, far, back. Who were these early inhabitants, who lived io the neolithic encampments to be found all over the area, and who perhaps helped to build the stone circles which are also to be discovered here? Why did they build their circles in stone, and why did they take their bearings from the sky? What did they see in the sky? In our time we trace waves of energy emanating from some inconceivable moment of origin, and we detect such fabulous phenomena as "black holes". Did they see waves, too did they believe themselves to be embarked upoo a vast sea? And what creatures did they recognize in the sky? So it was that First Light slowly filtered down to me.

For these matters fascinated me.
I have always been interested in
the nature of time, and the
presence of eveo the most remote past in the landscape through which we move every day and which we call our own. I have always believed, too, that if there is any harbour for the dead, and any meaning within the world, it is to be found in the process of time itself. Perhaps that is why Dorset has always seemed to me to be an especially interesting place — of all the areas of England it is perhaps the most continually inhabited, from the remotest period of human settlement. There is a continuity there; a kind of haunting. And, in First Light, the story began to circle around the discovery of an ancient tumulus and its inhabitant.

Of course I read everything I could about that remote past books by archaeologists, by palaeontologists, by economic Peter Ackroyd, whose new novel,

First Light, will be serialized in

The Times next week, explains

the resonance of his Dorset

home and the fascination of

tumuli and neolithic encampments

historians. But the evidence is atomic particle follows the ranscattered or hard to interpret, and the central mysteries remained. No one really knows much about these people, our ancestors. Our might be said that the universe own origins are lost in darkness always fulfils our expectations — and all our learning really the stars adopt the pattern which amounts to oo more than stories told in the dark. Wonderful sto-ries, sometimes — about stone miraculous possibility of "black ries, sometimes — about stone miraculous possibility of "black circles which become obser-boles", then they come into vatories, about ritual sacrifice, existence and wait patiently for about an international order of our observations. In that sense wise men. But stories, never the scientists also have to be fabulists. less. I put some of them within the narrative because novelists, too, often need stories to explain a world which is otherwise mexplicable.

But even as I was writing First Light I became 'All our learning really aware of another mystery - for some time I had amounts to been reading accounts in books no more than and the more specialized magastories told zines of those in the dark' discoveries being made in the areas of quantum physics and cosmol-

exploration of these two inti- desires, reflecting the most recent mately related areas - the in-finitely small and the infinitely matter and the history of the large - represents the most exciting development io our period. of Kepler, of Ptolemy, of Coper-And what had been disclosed in the course of these explorations? stories lasting only for a brief More mysteries. More mysteries period before being replaced by of origin. The closer matter is others? And what did all their examined, the more incomprehensible it becomes. Electrons move in all possible trajectories at once, and appear in two places at the same time. The spin of a sub- selves. Perhaps there were oo stars

our theories predict they will take. magicians, story-tellers - with the authority to make sense of a universe which seems literally

> First Light an observatory springs up on a moor not far from the ex-cavations of the ancient site and why the astronomer there, Damian Fall, suffers a kind of breakdown when he comes to believe that "io . each generation the

heavens become

ogy, sioce the scientific a celestial map of human universe. What were the theories nicus, of Einstein but stories knowledge really demonstrate?

Merely that the stars took oo the shapes which we chose for them. They became the image of our-

coostellatioos; perhaps they merely came into existence in recognition of our wishes and demands. And if there came a moment when no one on earth was studying the heavens - no was studying the neavens — no child looking up in wonder at the stars, on radio telescope directed towards the distant galaxies, no astronomer sitting in the observatory — what then? Was it possible that the heavens would then disappear?"
And so in First Light the

mysteries of the universe and the

mysteries of matter became asso-ciated for me with the mysteries of our own origins upon the earth. The dunes and tumuli of Dorset were filled with as many secrets as the cosmos. The ancient neolithic shape within the chamber grave is as much a part of us as the cosmic trace elements to be found in our bodies, but these are themes which cannot really be discussed in analytic prose and can only be disclosed through the medium of fiction or of poetry. That is why, in First Light, the archaeologists at the excavation and the astronometric the observation and the astronometric than the second control of the s mers in the observatory seemed in the end to represent two fields of force which touched each other at every point; why the discoveries within the ancient tomb affected the very sightings of the stars. That is why the story has a circularity like the circles of the sky and the circles of the stone monuments. As always the characters emerged as I wrote, starting to talk so loudly that I could only listen and take down what they had to say -the inhabitants of the region, the scientists, the lost people who haunt ancient sites, the invading hordes from London, all of them in turn affecting each other.

It may seem paradoxical that 1 am trying with difficulty to trace the origins of a book which is at least in part about the nature of origin - but even this is part of that endless pursuit towards certainty or meaning io which all of us are engaged. That is why the book is in part a comedy, for the impossibility of finding that goal is matched only by our assiduity in cootinuing the search for it. And that is why First Light is also a mystery, a pastoral mystery, for it is the mystery of our own selves.



Present in the past: Peter Ackroyd, finding that investigation of one mystery will lead to another

Imes Prize Jumbo Crosswo

ACROSS

1 Penultimate gifts of true love then received (2,3,8,3,2,9). 15 Chosen to take exam for this sort of

16 Visual aid required for one, I heard (7).

17 Gun needed for the draw (9). 18 Likeness of men with cables for repair

19 Ruffian gets oothing after commercial travellers come back in late (9).

20 Saint Scotus beat? (7).

21 British and American leaders at sea in Indooesia (5).

22 Right turn to render spellbound - so

vigorous! (9). 24 Misrepresentation of traditional high-

class building material (11). 25 Hamlet said that, like this creature, "I

eat the air, promise-crammed" (9).

27 In conformity with agreement with the worker (9).

31 Material needs changing - it's a bet (7). 33 Of great renown as an aircraft carrier

37 2000 - a time to dream, or go mad? (9).

38 Colooci Thomas was inquisitive, we

hear (5). 39 Articulate composer of a nice tune (9).

40 Picture of a very warm-hearted RAF type (5).

41 This was a fiery creature, two girls said (10).

44 Settle Ann's trouble having no one to pay the rent (10).

46 Get this, as advice to progressively minded founder of school (5).

48 Plot of ground with uranium and oil

mixture yields a fragrant shrub (9). 50 Robots dramatically capture the French

51 Sort of oovel homes, say, for instance

52 Cite one reel needing re-editing as Campaign for Votes (11).

53 Tempts French nobleman to enter episcopal offices (7).

"Patriotism is the last refuge of a -(Johnson) (9).

56 One article taken by the amateur cracksman is a flowering shrub (9).

59 Work together with Royal Engineers local boat construction (11).

63 A West Indian friar (9). 65 Smoother means of air travel (5).

66 Restore formation of Mary's Pretty Maids (7).

67 Birds get most of the bacon slices (9). 69 A simple little quarrel with Mrs Bardell for instance (9).

70 Issue that gives Epsom's first and last before a race (9).

71 King imprisons the kid perhaps (7). 72 Dooe nicely if incompletely anyhow -

iust laziness (9). 73 Rhythmical relation of the Boomer-chase? Just so (3,4-4,2,3,3,8).

1 Excessive underwriting of so successful a share offer? (14). 2 The man from the sultanate with a

Hill, Lacock, Wiltshire; and B.M. Batchelor, Brinsmade Road, Ampthill, Beds.

delusion of divinity (9).

3 'e meets Swift's girl-friend, or Pip's (7). 4 Glasses brought up by hand (9). 5 lt's material to include surgeon in

revised cricket team (9). 6 Comedian wandering out East so described? (7).

7 Israel's equine measures (5). 8 Caliban exuded "a very __ like smell" (7).

9 Active producing works on Holy Writ 10 Whence violins of a strange romance

11 This one starts the boxing match (figure may be approximate) (5,6).

12 Betting on finish in fast time - glorious it used to be (9). 13 Old French bagpipe silent - placed

inside (7). 14 Fortified as Roo was by his medicine?

23 Kind of address pad for instance? (13). 26 Professorial sinecure providing home comfort (4,5). 27 Work of Russell — fabulous author (5).

28 Message which oddly enough led to marriage (13). 29 Marches with the first of them into a vehicle (5).

30 Method of photography to check circuit speeds, say? (4-5). 32 Aid to calculation - of order of

precedence down the chute? (5-4). Hardy's companion took first place given the victor's crown (9).

Smiling when it ran out (5). 36 Poetaster's unusual musical entertainments (9).

38 Could be a knockout, would you say, a drink from this? (9). 42 Encountered when about to put up choir

music (5).

43 Spaniards' land of fire - part of it extremely chilly, one hears (6,3,5). 45 Painting method takes care of the finish after the second haif (5).

47 Did Wells speak at some length in this? 49 Thwart present movement in liquidity between banks perhaps (5-7).

51 Girl's reckoned as valid for a billbroker's job (11).

54 A rich eccentric against disturbing air with a cats' concert (9). 56 What we expect from the BBC - the oewly-weds' first functioo? (9).

57 Tone-poem of note, including upcountry one (9). 58 Shopkeeper has a position on East River

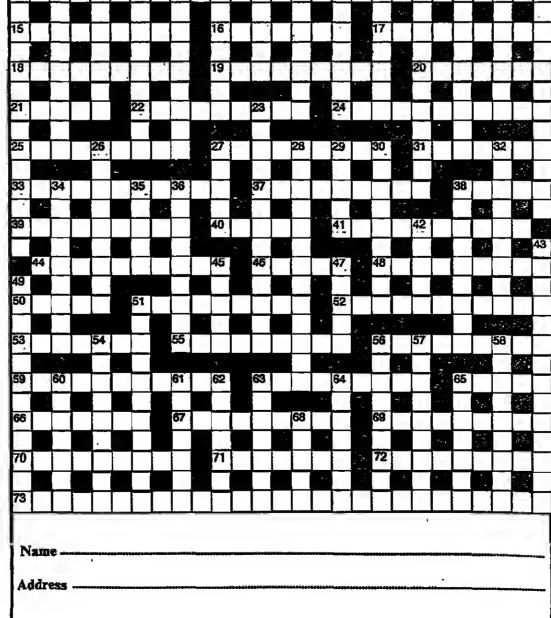
(9). 60 Result of damage to a keel - silver inset needed (7). 61 Merchant gone away with his ice-cream

cart (7). 62 Wyatt of OK Corral to drag along protection against the big noise (3-4). 63 Sir Andrew Aguecheek's hair hanging "like flax on a —" (7).

64 The remedy? Ban careless play (7). 65 One of those ordered by King Wenceslas could be cloping (4-3). 68 Where Jacob saw a vision - topless girl

The winners of prize concise No 1748 are Mrs J. Casserly, Top Lodge, Bowden

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first five correct solutions opened on Monday, January 9. Entries should be sent to The Times Christmas Jumbo Crossword Competition, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be published on Saturday, January 14.



SOLUTION TO NO 1753

(yesterday's concise crossword) ACROSS: 1 Mrs Mop 4 Vitric 9 Dracula 10 Thump 11 Vale 12 Foreseen 14 Impair 15 Biafra 18 Escorial 20 Hold 22 Vault 23 Biatant 25 Ration 26 Imbibe DOWN: 1 Mad 2 Snarl-up 3 Ovum 5 Intrepid 6 Route 7 Cap in hand 8 Kapok
11 Voice-over 13 Libretto 16 Flokan
17 Cabby 19 Count 21 Balm 24 Toe

SOLUTION TO NO 1748 (last Saturday's prize concise) ACROSS: 1 Sparta 5 Slang 8 New 9 Enigma 10 Ostend 11 Alas 12 Manicure 14 Cymric 15 Denote 16 Glorious 18 Icon

19 Outing 21 Grange 22 Hun 23 Eclat 24 Sleepy DOWN: 2 Penalty clause 3 Registrar 4 Anaemic 5 Sworn 6 Act 7 Generation gap 13 Candidate 15 Designs 17 Ought 20 III

Crosswords for Christmas: The Ninth Penquin Book of The Times Crosswords, £1.99, now on sale. The Times Computer Crosswords, 4 volumes, each £19.95 disc, £11.95 cussette, for IBM, Amstead, Atari ST, BBC & Spectrum. Tel Ahom Ltd, 01 852 4575, for details.

Concise Jumbo Crossword

There are no prizes for this crossword. The solution will appear on Monday in our

Boxing Day edition 3 Up and down **ACROSS** (music) (7) 1 Theme tune of 4 Existing within Beatles cartoon \mathfrak{g} 5 Case for quick (2,3,4,2,1,6,9)15 Ten litres (9) actioo (9) 6 Johnny-come-16 Impolite (7) lately (7) 17 Boiler insulation 7 Spanish bayonet (3,6) 18 Listing (9) 8 Straightfowardly 19 Shoulder tab (9) 20 Goa powder (7) 9 Fine grain rock type (7) 21 Still to be paid (5) 22 With physical pleasure (9) 16 Vigorous change (5-2) 24 Electricity charge 11 Officialdom (11) measure (11) 12 Flowers 25 Warrior shout (9) never fade (9) Portable ink 27 Replete (9) 13 Portable 31 Moon apogee and perigee (7) holder (7) 14 Clairvoyant (12) 33 Unreliable type of friend (11) 23 Writings (8,5) 26 Put down weap-37 Disastrously (9) 38 More cunning (5) ons (5,4) 27 Mast pivot spar 39 Just, unbiased (9) 40 Shroud cathedral 28 Spindle thread machine (8,5) 41 Flabbiness (10) 29 Billiards ricochet 44 Hunt drink (7,3) score (2,3) 46 Maid (5) 30 Giver up (9) 48 Pay back (9) 32 Amylum (3,6) 50 Level odds (5) 34 Busy Lizzie ge-51 Headless screw pus (9) 35 Farewell (5) 52 Joint business 36 Nazy Jewish po-

53 Takes a chance 38 Cheek etc whisgrom (9) (5,2)kers (9) 55 Short-lived (9) 42 Cornerstone (5) 56 Lends a hand 43 Leave in doubt (4,2,8)

59 Middle Eastern 45 Italian floorshow girl 47 Scram (3.2) 63 Light Brigade 49 Commit to memcharge battle (9)

65 French soldier 51 White tree latex 66 Cleanliness (7) 54 Arrange tresses 67 Criticise severely 56 On the chance.

69 Warn crew (5,4) 70 Flood (9) 71 Believer in souls for all things (7)
72 Big smile (5,4)

73 John Huston's 61 Les Enfants 1947 film about Terribles novelist greed (3,8,2,3,6,5)

DOWN 1 Uncle Cobbleigh's destination (10,4) 2 Jonson's role for 68 Amman Subtle (9)

62 Pink (7) 63 Sheriff's officer Tom 64 Makes (7) 65 1945 conference site (7)

nonite sect (5)

McD-

paste (5)

(5,6)

(5,4)

58 Slid (9)

(2,1,6)

60 Baggage (7)

57 Actors' entrance

0

Holly, ivy and rambling paths

 Wimpole Hall, Cambridge-shire; 8m SW of Royston. Sunday, January 1: 10am start for four and a half-mile walk through parkland, landscaped by Bridgeman, Brown and Repton Pub stop in Arrington followed by a four-mile afternoon walk, returning to the Hall car park. Packed lunch suggested for all-day walkers. Meet Wimpole Hall car park. Contact: Bert Richardson (RA) 0763 44509.

Mottisfont, Hampshire: 4½m NW of Romsey. Sunday, January 1: 10.30am start for four-mile walk around Abbey grounds and public paths near River Test. Pub lunch at end of walk. Meet Mottisfon! Abbey car park. Contact: Ian Duffin (RA) 0264 24495.

● Rickling Park, Norfolk; 1½m NW of Aylsham on A140. Monday, December 26: 10.30am start for five-mile walk south of the Hall. Packed lunch or pub lunch. Afternoon: 1pm start for five-mile walk skirting garden, lake and mausoleum and back by Weavers Way. Meet Orchard car park, Blickling Hall, Con-

Prices given are for garden only; children half-price unless otherwise indicated. CORNWALL

shele, St Dominic, nea Saltash, 8m SW of Tavistock Gardens, grounds and woods on the bank of the River Tamar. Open daily during daylight hours. Admission £1.50.

Lanhydrock, 2½ miles SE Bodmin. Fine gardens, park and woodland, failing to the

What could be more invigorating and enjoyable than a breath of

fresh air over Christmas and the

new year? Francesca Greenoak

roots out the best holiday walks

With the Christmas holiday ribboning along to meet the new year's celebrations, the week or so of festivities begins to seem like a period of confinement. For those who feel like breaking out, the National Trust and the Ramblers Association are combining operations to offer a number of guided Christmas walks. Varying from two to 10 miles in length, the walks are open to anyone (not just members of the trust or the association).

The selection listed below includes walks through interesting gardens or landscaped parks. Please note that contact telephone numbers are those of Rambiers Association members, so do not telephone unless absolutely necessary, and only at reasonable times.

GARDENS OPEN

tact: George le Surf (RA) 0603 day, December 27: 11am start 623070. day, December 27: 11am start for six-mile walk through mixed woodland, Repton chain Park, Norfolk; 2m SW of Sheringham. Tues-

Fowey river valley. Open daily

during daylight hours. Admission £1.50.

Wakehurst, 1%m NW of

an important collection of

trees. Open daily 10am-4pm. Admission £1.50; child under 16, 60p.

Ardingly on B2028. Despite the ravages of last October, still

landscape park and along cliff

Stourhead, Stourton, off B3092 3m NW of Mere. 18th-

century landscaped garden of 40 acres with lakes, temples

Saltram, 2m W of Plympton (near Plymouth). Garden and landscaped park of 21

and rare evergreen and

tops. Packed lunch required. Meet NT car park - enter from A148 into the park. Contact: as above.

• Felbrigg Hall, Norfolk; 2m SW of Cromer off A148. Thursday, December 29: I lam start for five-mile walk around the estate. Packed lunch required. Meet NT car park near the Hall. Contact: as

• Wallington Hall, Northum-berland; Cambo 12m W of Morpeth (B6343). Thursday, December 29: 10.30am start for choice of two walks, four miles or eight miles, to include grounds and surrounding area. Packed lunch required. Meet Wallington Hall car park. Contact: Malcolm Ruddick (RA) 091 285 7279. · Erddig Country Park, Clywd: 2m S of Wrexham. Wednesday, December 28: 10am start for four-mile walk along easy terrain in estate landscaped in late 18th century. Meet: Yale Hostel, Erdigg Estate. Contacts: Irene and Graham Thompson (RA) 0978 755406.



Wintry trees at Blickling Park, Norfolk, which will be open for an organized walk

acres. Open daily 11am-6pm. Admission £1.

Gawthorpe Hall, N of A671, E of Padham outskirts. Woodland walks and formal gardens of 2½ acres. Open daily 10am-dusk. Admission £1.50.

Montacute, 4m W of Yeovil on S side of A3088. Landscaped park and

formal garden of 12 acres.

LANCASHIRE

SOMERSET

Open daily 12.30pm-dusk. Admission 60p. deciduous trees. Open 8am-

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, near Richmond, Open 9.30am-4pm. Admission 50p; child under 10 free (not mas Day or New Year's Day). NORTH YORKSHIRE

Harlow Car Gardens, Crag Lane, Harrogate. Gardens

Include winter garden with viburnums, cornus and witch hazels. Open daily 9.30am-dusk. Admission £2; £1.50 for senior citizens: accompanied child free.

Crathes Castle Garden, on A93, 15m W of Aberdeen. Formal gardens with famous collection of trees and shrubs, glasshouse. Open daily 9.30am-dusk. Admission

KINCARDINE AND

grounds and gardens, £1.90.

Kellie Castle Garden, on 89171, 3m NNW of Pittenweem, Formal

Victorian garden. Open 10amdusk, Admission £1. ROSS AND CROMARTY

Inverewe Garden, on A832, 6m NE of Gairloch, Highland garden in Impressive landscape of mountains, moor and sea-loch. Open daily 9.30am-dusk. Admission

WEEKEND TIPS

Bring bails in pots indoors to flower once the bnds have emerged a good 2in/5cm from the leafy neck

• Clean pots and seed-trays, and disinfect them, ready for next year.

greenhouses sparingly with tepid water in the

 Insulate outdoor pots which are too heavy to bring straw or thick layers of and protect the plant inside

 Do not keep terracotta plants standing directly on the frozen ground - raise them with a small prop of nonporous material.

 Pot or plant outside Christmas-present plants as soon as possible (unless conditions turn too

severe for outdoor planting). • Tidy the last of the

autumn leaves, especially from ponds and under fruit

● Make leaf-mould, using clear-plastic sacks if no • Dig lime (dolornite lime or calcified seaweed are best)

into the ground in which you intend planting root crops next year, roughly: sandy soil %0z/20g; medium loam 2%0z/60g; heavy clay 30z/80g, per square yard.

CHESS

Battle of the giants

The annual Hastings tour-nament is the oldest tra-against the Black King. ditional event in the chess calendar. The tournament this year is, perhaps, the highest-rated event ever to be played in the United Kingdom, and the calibre of the contestants guarantees a fascinating

England is represented by Jon Speelman, Nigel Short, Grandmaster Murray Chanqualified from last year's Challengers' section. The foreign threat is headed by former World Champion, Vassily Smyslov from the Soviet Union, and Viktor Korchnoi. In addition, there is Boris Gulko, now representing the United States, and the great Dane, Bent Larsen.

Korchnoi, in particular, is expected to produce some fiercely competitive chess. Witness, for example, the following, which was awarded a special prize last month by the World Chess Federation, as one of the outstanding games of the previous year. White: Viktor Korchnoi; Black: Jon Arnason. Beer Sheva 1987, English Opening.
1 c4 e5 2 Nc3 M6
3 M3 Nc6 4 g3 e5
5 mc65 Nc66 6 5g2 Nc6
7 0-0 Be7 8 b3

True to his complicated style, Korchnoi chooses a recondite system of development for his Queen's Bishop. The orthodox moves at this point are to be 8 d3 or 8 a3.

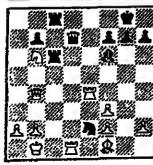
A more aggressive procedure would result from the continuation 9_Bg4 at once, to be followed by the thrust...f5, utilizing the presence of the Black Rook on 18 to prosecute the counterattack on the King's wing.

From this moment on it is

Black's fortunes. He could have maintained the balance by playing 15...Bxc5 16 Rxc5

ing to build up some pressure in the half-open "c" file. However, as will soon be seen, his concept is considerably more profound, involving, as il does, the bold transfer of

WINNING MOVE

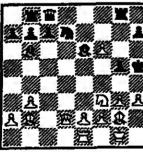


against the Black King.
19 _ Be6 20 Rb4
21 d4 g5

Arnason snans at the bait and tries to win the exposed White Rook. Far from retreating, this piece now immolates itself in the heart of Black's King's fortifications.

Black has won a Rook, for of pawns in compensation. Nevertheless, Korchnoi is relying on the exposed predicament of the Black King to bring him victory.

Here is the major crossroad of the game. If Black had now played 24...Nc5 then 25 Qc1 Ne4 26 Nxg5 Nxg5 27 h4 Rg8 28 f7 Bxf7 29 Qf4 would guarantee White's advantage. Alternatively, if the Black King had sought to flee the danger zone with 24...Kg6 then White stays on top with 25 Qd2 h6 26 Nh4+ Kf7! 27 Qc2 Nf8 28 Bf3 Qd8 29 Rd1 when Black has nothing better than to give up his Queen with 29. ..Qxdl + 30 Qxdl gxh4. After 31 Qd2 the Black King remains hopelessly exposed. There are many complicated variations in this line, but nowhere does Black have a clear way of saving himself.



Weaving an inexorable net around the Black King, Arnason can only avoid checkmate at the cost of heavy

A wonderfully imaginative idea. Al first sight it would appear that Korchnoi is seeking to build up some present.

One of the most exciting games I have ever seen.

Raymond Keene

Champions, both top Grandmesters.) To enter The Times Winning Move competition, sand your snawer on a postcard with your name and address for The Times. I Virginia Street, London Ef 5004. The first three correct showers drawn on Friday near week will win a wellet-sized personal cheek computer. The winners names together with the winning move will be printed in The Times need Saturday. Solution to yesterday's position: 1 Q55+

Last Saturcley's competition was a pos-tion from the game Morphy against Count lacuard and the Duke of Brunswick, playing in consultation, Paris 1867, White's wincistig move is 1 CDS+.

CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE: Toytown Roundabout and Chessington Railroad open, Also a nativity scene in the children's zoo, carols, choirs, bands and Father

Zoological Gardens, Chessington, Surrey (03727 27227). Today, 10am-3pm. COTTLE AND AUSTEN'S

COMBINED CIRCUS: Traditional circus with clowns, acrobats, gymnasts, bareback riders, animals. Big Top, Wembley Stadium Car Park, Wembley (box office: 01-900 1234, 924 1111). Today, and from Boxing Day Weekdays 3pm and 7pm. Weekends 2pm and 5pm.

WALT DISNEY'S WORLD ON ICE: Multi-million-pound extravaganza mounted to celebrate Donald Duck's 50th anniversary, with all the best-loved Disney characters. Show lasts two hours. G Mex Centre, Manchest (box office: 061 273 3775). Today at noon, then evenings and matinees until Jan 7. Tickets, £7.50, £9.50

child £3-5.

and £12.50.

HOLLY AND THE MAGICAL OAK: Children's Christmas show about a little girl trying to save an old oak tree from destruction during the

OUTINGS

Roll up for the big top



Clowning around: preparing for the show (left) with liberal supplies of face paint; making a splash in the ring

season of goodwill. Gardner Centre for the Arts, University of Sussex, Felmer, Brighton (box office: 0273 685861). Boxing Day until mid-Jan, 2.30pm and 6pm. Adult £4-£6, child £3-£5.

WEALD AND DOWNLAND OPEN AIR MUSEUM: Special holiday opening at the most delightful open air museum in the south, with many historic buildings from medieval times to the last

century set in beautiful parkland. Shop and light Weald and Downland Open

Air Museum, Singleton, near Chichester, Sussex (024363 348). Boxing Day until Jan 2, 11am-4pm. Adult £2.20, child £1.10. SPECTACULAR: Mary Chioperfield and her animals - including lions, black bears and horses - trapeze

acts, clowns and a farmyard animal review. The Pavilion, Worthing (tickets and further information: 0903 820500) Boxing Day until Jan 1, 2.30pm and 5.30pm.

TRADITIONAL MUMMERS PLAYS AND MORRIS DANCING: In Northamptonshire, this Boxing Day event has been held for the past 15 years or so — the play is followed by various from Cotswold morris to a morris procession with clogs from the north-west of England, and sword dancing from the north-eas similar event is held in Gloucester.

Stocks Hill, Church Street, Moulton, Northampton. Boxing Day, 11am. Free. Cathedral Precincts, Northgate Street, Gloucester. Boxing Day, noon. Free.

BOXING DAY STEAMING: Four rides on Boxing Day - at 11.45am, 1.30pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm. Presents for children, glass of sherry for

Midland Railway Centre, Butterley Station, Ripley, Derbyshire (0773 570140). Boxing Day, 11am onwards. Tickets: adults and children aged three-14, £3; under

SANTA'S DEER FEED: Last chance for children to watch the park deer being fed by Father Christmas. Margam Park, Port Talbot, West Giamorgan (0639 881635). Today, 10.30am.

BANDSTAND AT CHRISTMAS: Tomorrow from 11amconcert given by the Eastbourne Silver Band. Boxing Day folk dencing from 10.15-11am, open dancing with Sounds Easy from 11am-12.30pm. Tes dance at the Winter Gardens in the afternoon from 3-6pm.

The Bandstand, Grand Parade and the Winter Gardens, Eastbourne, Sussex, Christmas Day and Boxing Day, Bandstand events free. Tea dance £3,

Judy Froshaug

BRIDGE

Wise words, feet of clay

vourably with such giants of a previous age as Bradman and Hutton can also be heard in the bridge world: "The moderns lack Reese's technique or Belladonna's flair"; there'll never be another Garozzo". Perhaps, but the mighty did sometimes have feet of clay. Look at this hand from the Bermuda Bowl played in Brazil in 1961. Italy v USA. North-Sonth Game. Dealer West.

This was the bidding in the Open room, with the USA North-South.

D'Aleio 'Hodge Chieradia Gerber (1) D'Alaio-Chiaradia were playing the Nespolitan Club. One clemond is the required opening bid in that system. (2) Revolting, 4-3-3-3 shape, with five of the 12 points in the opponent's suit.

(3) Presumably suggesting a service in a minor at terourable vulnerability.

(4) Hevino made a succession, corractive

D'Alelio started with a top clnb. When Chiaradia con-tributed the \$4, the stage was set for a fine defence roundabouts. rounds of clubs. Gerber can

The greybeards who compare postpone defeat by ruffing today's cricketers unfa- the third club with dummy's in with the \$\Phi\$A he plays a fourth club which Chiaradia ruffs with the \$\Phi\$9 to promote West's \$\Phi\$J. Che bella!

In real life, D'Alelio switched at trick two to a heart. It was Gerber's turn. He won the heart in dummy and played the only card which ensured his defeat, the ten of D'Alelio didn't slip again

He won the AA, cashed his other top club, and continued with the \$10 asking for his heart ruff. Chiaradia scored his \$9 and switched to a diamond. D'Alelio raised an eyebrow. Chiaradia shrugged his shoulders. 100 to Italy. This was the bidding at the other table.

Garozzo Silidor · Forquet

Forquet's double is unattractive as Gerber's in the other room. The Italian camp were delighted when after a club lead Kay, West, switched to a heart. But now it was Garozzo's turn to commir bara-kiri. He won the heart and played a club. When Kay won and played a third club, Garozzo discarded diamond from dummy. Silidor ruffed and returned a heart 100 to USA No swing, but one or two

Jeremy Flint

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EATING OUT

Nine out of ten for effort

a kilo of lard into my face and a further two into my hair in an attempt to convince the world that I am Mr Eric Morley. Some hope: he is aided in his momentous annual decision by a stellar team of celebrity timeshare executives, I have just gnt me - so you can count out the democratic process. What you have to look forward to is a display of partiality untempered by the compromises and horse-trading that, for better or worse, afflicts most juries.

In the meantime, however, here are some of the places that did not quite get among the medals. Le Gavroche is, for a certain kind of cooking which might be called the Higher Homely, unbeatable. Of course it deserves an award, but it has so many already that it would not know where to put another one. It is an enduring classic which is almost an institution, rather like the Princess Royal or Mr Jeffrey Bernard. A beef daube cooked, I gather, by Steven Doherty who, like many of his predecessors, is to be set up in his own establishment by the Roux brothers, was excellent beyond belief. And so was a tarte tatin. And so - it almost goes without saying - was the service; in this regard it is the model for all grand restaurants, and the nnly pity is that so many which aspire to its heights never even begin to scale them. This sort of service, the greeter at Boulestin should note, is a world away from being sniffy and, the entire staff at Beccofino should note, a world away from being intimidatory.

The Capital Hotel, whose kitchen, under Philip Britten, is clearly on the up, is another joint where the elaborately dressed staff possess tendencies that border on the arrogant. Still, they do keep them in check; I mean they do not come on so strongly that they detract from either the cooking or the quite remarkable wine list.

Britten's old post in Battersea is now occupied by David Cavalier, who is very young and a notably talented chef. Whether he is as talented as a restaurateur is perhaps moot. The food at Cavaliers'

Jonathan Meades

warms up for next week's restaurants of the year awards by naming the

best of the rest

is terrific, virtuoso stuff. But the feel of the place is provincial - it is as though Cavalier and his wife, Susan, were attempting to replicate in Battersea what they had done in Aylesbury. The striving for a sense of occasinn is kind of overbearing, the idea that a restaurant might be fun is unexplored. It would take very little to turn this establishment's promise into absolute achievement - a certain relaxation (which is not synonymous with sloppiness) is all that is needed. In the meantime there is always, of course, the cooking pastry here is delicious and the main courses, composed of manifold ingredients, are quite something.

Why has South London so many good restaurants and North London so few? Can it be explained entirely in terms of the South's generally lower property prices, which mean that punters have more money to spend, and that restaurateurs are less liable to cut corners in order to service the massive mortgages, pay the massive rents that are northern norms? Well, maybe, but the restoration of the building that houses The Grafton in Clapham Old Town obviously cost an arm and a leg. That cost is not reflected in what you have to pay - for cooking of this quality, £60 for two is below par. The sweet souffles are certainly among the best in town, matched only, I believe, by one other establishment's. The house, supposedly the oldest in Clapham, has been done up with some taste; the service in the restaurant is, on the other hand,

too fussy - synchronized lifting of domes and all that: A different sort of over-

presentation mars Nichol's near Swiss Cottage; actually, mars is putting it a bit loudly, for the place is a good one and unquestionably in a higher league than anywhere else I have come across in Hampstead and its environs. But it has menu prose as overblown as that of the Capital Hotel, Muzak, and a decorative look that is too close to the kit-built restaurants which now crop up everywhere. Nichol's is not to be judged by its appearance; the Anglo-French kitchen (manned, incidentally, by New Zealanders) is a talented one.

The totally French kitchen at Jacques in the thoroughly improbable location of southern Finsbury Park is also a talented one and, furthermore, the eponymnus owner/chef/greeter/entertainer is one of the rare people of genuine spirit and originality left in a trade that seems, increasingly, to attract a breed of careerist restaurateur who might just as well be in double-glazing or futures frauds. Jacques is professional, certainly, but he evidently believes that professionalism should not pre-clude passion. Also, his cooking is pretty good and none the worse for aping, in its austere manner if not its matter, that of Nico Ladenis. The Good Food Guide's omission of him from this year's edition was presumably occasioned by some non-gastronomic consideration.

f Finsbury Park is one sort of improbable location in which to find serious cook-ing, then Gatwick Airport is another. What the Garden Restaurant at the Gatwick Hilton demonstrates is that there is a clientele for a proper restaurant in chain hotels, and that such establishments can successfully trade in something other than raspberry garnishes and kiwi fruit with everything. With this exception, the year's better restaurants out of town have been in places where one might expect to find

While people, in defiance of Mr Bottomley, seem willing to drive considerable distances in order to eat well, they do not seem willing



to drive into large cities; even if they live in such cities, they like to get out into the country, or at least into country towns. I know Winchester is a cathedral city rather than a country town, but it fits the bill. Brann's, to go by a meal in early autumn, should be a success - the cooking is unsimmicky, full of punchy flavours and strong on fish and game. The dining room does not look very special, indeed it does not look special at all, but I suspect that that matters less than its location opposite the cathedral.

On the other side of Southampton, on the edge of the New Forest, Provence entirely lives up to its name. Jean-Pierre Novi's pretty mill could be nowhere but southern England, but his cooking belongs entirely to southern France. It is unmediated by its removal to these cooler climes. The three-course set lunch at £10.50 is a great bargain and might include millet with fennel, pastis and star anis, duck confit with braised chicory, quails stuffed with sweetbreads. M Novi imports his own wines from Les Alpilles, and they too are great

The Carved Angel, overlooking the estnary at Dartmouth, is, rather like Le Gavroche, an institution to be cherished. Which is not to say that it is a museum piece — the very sunny cooking is of a high order and, unusually, for the provinces, of rustic inspiration. By some bizarre inversion, food with its roots in the earth is more commonly found in London, where the dressed-up and the overworked no longer reign su-

and numerous inspired gifts to

purchase? Christmas Eve may not be the ideal time to stock

have enough presents under the tree and bottles on the

Forget about joining the queues at the off-licence and

go straight to one of the 27
Majestic Wine Warehouse
branches, which will stay open
today until 5 er 6pm, possibly
later if they are busy. Head for

Inter if they are busy. Head for the claret corner where you will find magnums of 1985 Château Meaume (a well-run Bordeaux Superieur property owned by English couple Alan and Sue Johnson-Hill), al-ready gift-wrapped for you in handsome wooden baxes (29.99). This claret, with its soft cedery teste is definitely

(29.39). This charet, with its soft, cedary taste is definitely ready for drinking now, unlike other '85s, and two of these will happily see an enthusiastic wine-drinking family of six through the turkey and Stilton tomarrow. Bottles without the box should also be on sale at \$8.40 each.

Still in the claret section, make sure you get hold of a wooden crate of 1984 Châtean

Leon, containing a dozen bot-tles priced at £34.68. This

pleasant, perfumed claret has a ripe cassis palate and would make a great present for those who will be scating a dozen or more friends and family at their Christmas table. And if

anyone wants to snaffle stocks of a New Year's Eve party claret before everyone else does, this should be it.

hristmas penny-pinch-ers will also be delight-

ed to learn that

£8.49 each.

value.

preme. The quality of ingredients at the Carved Angel is high - offal, fish, seaweed and, most impressive nf all, cheeses from Devon and Welsh farms. These cheeses, and the really attractive wines, ram home the point that supplies are of as much moment as the ability of the kitchen; the most depressing reading for anyone who enjoys good food is the catering trade press and, specifically, the interminable advertisements for produce (semi-cooked this, freeze dried that) that enables lazy restaurateurs to take short cuts. The Carved Angel is a

·**y**--- .

beacon of probity in this regard. The Roadbouse Restaurant outside Northampton is another establishment where the kitchen's confidence in good food simply cooked is manifest the game here is especially worthwhile.

Away from the mainstream of English, French and Anglo-French restaurants, a vaguely heartening sign has been the slow awakening of London-Italian restaurateurs to the realization that crummy ingredients smothered in dreary sauces have lost their appeal. Maybe that is to overstate it: put it this way, a small number of restaurateurs (not, significantly, all of them Italian) have set nut to rehabilitate the manifold cuisines of Italy and to avoid the gen-eralized cliches that have held

sway for 30 years or more.

La Seppia retains the strange basement décor of the old Golden Carp - but that is all that it has in common with this particularly discredited shard of the past. Although the chef is Italian he has *******
43 Upper Brook Street, London W1 (01-408 0881) CAPITAL HOTEL *****
Basil Street, London SW3 (01-589 5171) CAVALIERS' *****
129 Queenstown Road, London SW8 (01-720 6960) THE GRAFTON ***** 45 Old Town, London SW4

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75 Fairfax Road, London NW6 (01-624 3880) JACQUES

130 Blackstock Road, London N4 (01-359 3410) GARDEN RESTAURANT *****
Gatwick Hilton, Gatwick Airport, West Sussex (0293 518080) BRANN'S

9 Great Minster Street, Winchester, Hampshire (0962 64004)

worked at, among other fine restaurants, Tante Claire, and his mainly Venetian repertoire is tempered by French nous. The tasting menu" at £19 is a pretty good deal for cooking of such quality. Fish, in which he specializes, is unsurprisingly better than the meat

Given Venice's poor culinary reputation, it is odd that yet another new wave Italian place should also major in its dishes. Ziani Dolce is not up to the standard of La Seppia but it is making a mighty effort, and does a fry of mixed offal which is pretty sound and worth going back for.

ast year was not a vintage one for nriental restaurants; it was not eveo a good one. 1 cannot believe that 1 constantly select the wrong places to report on. Just as every suburb tinw owns a marbled and stippled Nouvelle Franglaise joint, so does it own smart Pekingese and smart Indian places. The trouble with the former is that they all serve the same menu, to, of course, varying degrees of proficiency. The trouble with the latter is that, like Italians, they have heard this word "reginnal". The point is it is simply not enough to change the wording on the menu: the questinn arises of what reginn? The most interesting new Chinese place is undoubtedly Dragon's Nest, nn the edge nf Chinatown. This is not altogether to be expected, for the standard of the predominantly Cantonese places in south Soho is, by and large, declining - the fact that chefs move with such persistent

THE CARVED ANGEL ******
2 South Embankment, Dartmouth, Devon (08043 2645) THE ROADHOUSE RESTAURANT ****** 16-18 High Street, Roade near Northampton (0604 863372) LA SEPPIA **** 8s Mount Street London W1 (01-499 3385/629 5445) ZIANI DOLCE ***** 112 Cheyne Walk, London SW3 (01-352 7534/1234) DRAGON'S NEST ★★★ 58 Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (01-437 31 19) JAMDANI ***** 34 Charlotte Street, London W1 (01-636 t 178) NANTEN **** Blandford Street, London W1 (01-935 6319) UMENO-YA **** 253 Finchley Road, London NW3 (01-435 8602)

regularity dies nut help. Dragon's Nest is unusual, probably alone, in possessing a kitchen brigade from Taiwan. And the cooking is, apparently, peculiar to that island: tripe appears in about a dozen different dishes, and the dim sum are a cut above those of the rest of the area.

The most interesting new In-dian place is, alas, Jamdani. I say alas because it sets new records for expense in sub-continental restaurants; £60 for two without any alcohol to drink is serious damage. Still, it is very special, and it does look very handsome indeed.

The same amount of dosh will buy you a hardly more bibulous feast at the great Japanese cafe called Nanten. This place is a treat it looks as though it has been slung together by half a dozen sake-fuelled anarchists, each with a spectacularly different visioo of . what it should end up as. It is nbligatory to smoke cigarettes and drink whisky as you eat. And you eat very well indeed. The belly pork with soy and sake is the best in London, and the sashimi of . tuna belly is a revelation. Oddest, and most delicious, is the profoundly marine dish of cod roe marinaded in salt and chilli. Anyone fed up to the gills with the pretensions of high restaurateuring should head forthwith to Blandford Street. Or to Finchley . Road, where Umeno-Ya dishes up . a slightly less adventurous but equally well prepared gamut of Japanese dishes in similarly informal surrounds. Such joints are just . the thing for the week after the . excesses of Christmas.

RESTAURANT GUIDE

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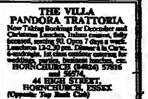
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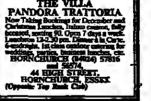
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LEISURE

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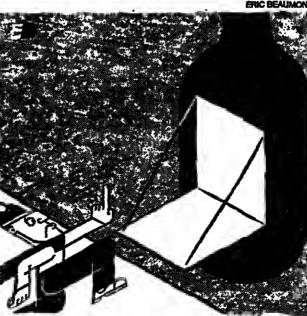
Did you read about this great challenge in The Times last week? Now that the challenge week? Now that the challenge is out in the open, I hope that you are interested in participating in the development of this tremendously exciting new industry as I am. You can contribute to the industry by joining in with your own ideas

joining in with your own ideas and projects or by just being a loyal consumer of its products. The first product is aiready available to you. The book "WHAT IS IT?" is now on sale at FOYLES. Pick it on sale at CVILES. PCK it up, read it, keep it and cherish it...and what better present for your loved ones, than the fulfilling experience of going through "WHAT IS IT?" Give it away with love...and spread the message of human values. A Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.

FARHAD HORMOZI

eeling smug sitting on a full Christmas wine cel-Last-minute ler? Or still in a paddy, with vital last-minute bottles glass-fillers up on wine, but I know many people who leave everything this late and still manage to

DRINK



mans, any of which would make a good Christmas stocking-filler for wine buffs. A map of France featuring the principal regions and grape vari-eties (on sale here for £8.49, 49.50 elsewhere) will probably prove the most popular, but West Coast wine fans will enjoy the Napa Valley map (£11.45) and its Sonoma Valley sister (£11.45). I shall be buying Willi's Wine Bar sign, but probably more because the inestimable Wilii's is one of the best places to champagne.
eat and drink well and cheaply Sainsbury's is another good in Paris. Once again, Majestic

Majestic has some pre-Christmas party bargains; most particularly that of the '86 Château La Jaubertle Rouge have a price advantage of £16.49 here, £22 elsewhere.
Anyone who is feeling flash with funds today should take a close look at Majestic's list of '83 and '84 clarets: a disfrom Bergerac. This purple wine has a somewhat rustic, earthy taste; made mostly from the Merlot grape, re-duced from £3.35 a bottle to tressed parcel was snapped up £2.99, patriots will be glad to know that like Meanme, by the warehouse recently. All the '83s look keenly priced. Janbertie is an English-owned My tips here would include the property. Majestic has started to sell the '85 Château de La Jaubertie Reserve for £4.99 a bottle; having tested it twice I distinguished Durcra-Beancaillon (£18.99; £27 at Berry Bros & Rudd), Figeac (£19.75) and Cos d'Estournel (£19.75; £19.96 at Berry Bros am not convinced that this predominantly Cabernet & Rndd).

Sauvignon wine, topped up with a little Merlet and Malbec and aged in oak casks, is either worth the extra effort Saleway is worth visiting with a little Merlot and Malbec and aged in oak casks, is either worth the extra effort from the vineyard or the extra money asked for it.

Majestic has started selling some high quality vineyard Palmer. Young, but so very

appealing, full of grassy fruit, that none of us need worry about opening up this bottle on Christmas Day (£6.50 a bottle, £12.95 a magazana). Big bottles of wine on the festive table look especially generous and Christmessy, and keen champagne swiggers should take note that Safeway are selling a jeroboam (four bottles) of Hollinger non-vintage Brut champagne for £75 - which is poster, partiy because I like a reasonable price, as it is on Cathy Millet's colourful desale for £17 a bottle in most outlets and there is always a premium on big bottles of

— although open from 8.30am this morning, all the branches will be closed by 2.30pm. Head for one of the bigger, flagship branches which have a wide range and large stocks of their best wines. Tempting bottles include the fresh, grassy '86 Chablis, Bacheroy-Josselin (£5.95) whose richer style is a happy characteristic of the 1986 vintage. If this Chablis makes a good superior all-round Christmas white, then the 1983 Wyndhams Bin 937 Cabernet Sauvignon with its intense, voluptuous, blackcurranty taste is the red equivalent (£3.65). Look out for Sainsbury's spicy cinna-mon and plum flavoured Portuguese Arrada, the per-fect Christmas mulled wine base; just add one glass of brandy or any orange-based liqueur, plus a pinch each of cloves or mixed spice, and sugar to taste, and heat gently without letting the mull boil.

last-minute stop, but watch out

arks & Spencer is the place to go (8.30am-5pm) for prettily packaged Christmas wine gifts and stocking fillers for any guests who turn up unexpectedly. The selection looks even more appetizing this year than last, with four new lines. My favourites include the new brandy miniatures pack containing two miniatures of . brandy and six brandy-filled dark chocolate "goblets" (£6.50); and the Asti Spamante pack, containing a ; small bottle of Asti Spamante ; and six dark "bottle" cbocolates filled with a grapey Asti liqueur (£5.50).

Finally, don't forget to give ; yourself a Christmas present: Laurent Perrier's stunning, flowery-toasty Cuvée Grand Siècle prestige champagne (Oddbins £36.99).

Jane MacQuitty



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and the second s

THE TIMES COOK.

New leaves for tired palates

If the thought of slices of cold turkey stretching into the New Year does not appeal, Frances Bissell has some fresh thoughts on meals which can be made from stocks kept in the refrigerator

With so few shopping days be-tween now and the New Year, it is a good idea to think about the kind of food that keeps reasonably well. bearing in mind that whatever you find in the shops next week may well have been delivered this week. Lettuce will be looking distinctly limp and lifeless, watercress too. These will do to make refreshing soup, using stock from whatever you roasted on Christ-mas Day, but for salads, consider some of the hardier leaves. It always surprises me how long radiccio and other members of the chicory family last. The tightly furled crimson and pale green heads should be stored, loosely wrapped, in the salad drawer in the refrigerator. Chinese leaves are also good storers, and particularly useful because they can be cooked or served raw as a salad.

Meat is not too much of a problem. Any that you buy today can be marinated until Boxing Day or so, then cooked slowly in a casserole, chilled and served next day with a pastry topping. I particularly like to cook venison this way, the marinating and casseroling giving it extra flavour. Game makes a pleasant change from Christmas roasts, and I have given here one of my favourite venison recipes. You do not have to use the most expensive loin, the boned shoulder will do perfectly

The crumble topping could not be easier. Although it is most often to be found on sweet dishes, crumble can be made without sugar but with the addition of some finely chopped herbs, ground or chopped nuts and a little grated cheese, to make a savoury cover for meat or vegetable casseroles. It is worth making a couple of extra batches of crumble to keep in the refrig-

A roll of filo pastry is one of the permanent fixtures in the icemaking compartment of my small refrigerator, again for sweet or savoury dishes; tiny buttery triangular parcels of cheese, prawns,

mushrooms and so on, or sweet cushinns of dried fruit, ground almonds and spices. I use it for a crisp fluted pastry case to hold a spicy apple and raisin filling, cribbed from one of the most delicious things I have eaten on an airline: a bot, cinnamon apple pudding from British Airways'

pastry kitchen at Heathrow. A last-minute pudding can be made using dried finit soaked in wine. It will also make a good Christmas present, packed in a glass jar. I have kept apricots this way for several months, and have seen a jar I made two years ago in a friend's cupboard.

Fresh fish is the one thing that is

really difficult to find over the holidays, and I shall look instead for smoked fish, especially my favourite, undyed smoked haddock, which is perfect at any time of day - in leisurely breakfast kedgerees, in chowders with herbs and potatoes, in pasta dishes with spinach and in warm salads such as the one that follows.

This very simple, effective and wondrously satisfying combina-tion of smoked haddock and potatoes is based on a dish I ate recently at Nichol's, David and Susan Nichol's new restaurant in London's Swiss Cottage.

Warm smoked haddock and potato satad with chive and butter sauce Serves 4

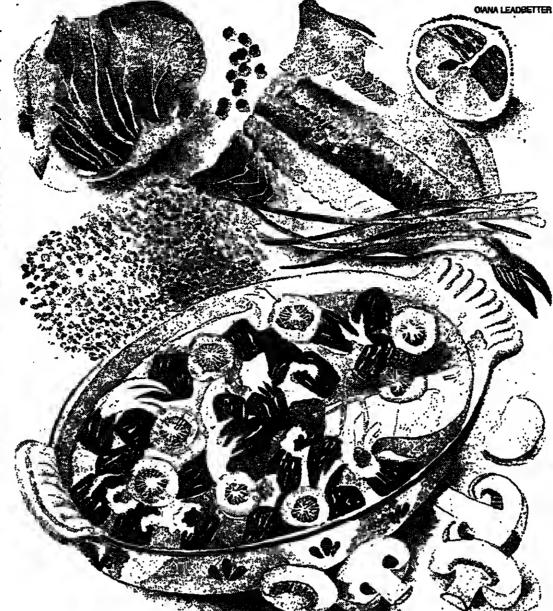
%lb/340g potatoes 1lb/455g undyed smoked haddock fillet washed and dried salad leaves 2 thep olive oil

4 tbsp double cream few drops lemon juice 1oz/30g butter, chilled and diced

4 tosp water or fish poaching

1 thsp finely chopped chives

Wash, scrub or peel the potatoes as appropriate and parboil them.



When cool enough to handle, thinly slice them. Remove any bones and skin from the fish, and cut it into 12 even pieces. Steam or poach for two or three minutes until just cooked and put to one side. Arrange the salad leaves on dinner plates. Fry the potatoes in olive oil until tender and golden brown. Put to one side while you make the salad space. make the sance. Put the water or stock and cream in a small shallow pan, bring to the boll, reduce a little, add the lemon juice and the butter, a piece al a time, swirling the pan and stirring to amalgamate the butter and liquid. When it thickens slightly, add the

chives and season to taste. Arrange the fish and potatoes on the salad, and pour the sauce over it. Venison crumble

11/slb/680g venison, off the

1 carrot

1/2 pt/280ml port or red wine

1/2 oz/15g dried wild mushrooms or 40z/110g fresh mushrooms %pt/140ml stock seasoning

5oz/140g plain flour

3oz/85g butter Cut the meat into small chunks. Heat the oil, and gently fry the sliced carrot, onion and celery until they begin to brown. Pour on the wine, and then remove from the heat. Cool the marinade and then pour it over the meat. Leave overnight or for at least a few hours. If using dried mushrooms, soak them in a bowl of warm water until plumped out and soft. Drain and dry the meat. Strain the marinade and set it aside. (When I have leftover marinade vegetables, I usually try to add them

to some soup or stock so as not to

Heat a non-stick frying pan. Taking a few pieces at a time, sear the meat all over, and transfer it to a casserole. Pour the stock and the marinade into the fiying pan and boil, scraping up any residue. Pour over the meat. Add the drained, sliced mushrooms. Season lightly and add the crushed garlic. Cover and cook in the oven at gas mark 2 to 3, 150-170°C/300-325°F, for 142 to 2 hours. You can prepare the dish to this stage the day before. Like most casseroles, it benefits from the blending of flavours

For the final preparation, trans-fer the meat to a shallow dish, leaving at least 1/2 in/1cm for the

Rub the butter into the flour until it resembles fine breadcrumbs. Spoon evenly over the meat and press down a little. Bake in a hot oven, gas mark 6 to

seeds from 4 cardamom pods

brown sugar to taste 3oz/85g unsafted butter 30z/85g raisins, currants or suitanas

3 sheets filo pastry

2 tosp apricot jam thinned with 1oz/30g flaked atmonds

Peel, core and dice the apples and cook them gently for five to eight minutes with the spices, a little Sugar, half the butter and the dried fruit. Cut the sheets of pastry into four quarters, and trim each to a square. Lay the squares one on top of the other, and brushing each with melted butter before you use it, line each of four small buttered ramekins with three sheets of filo pastry, each one placed on top of the other at a slight angle so that the 12 points show separately. Spoon the fruit into the pastrylined ramekins, stand them on a

'A last-minute pudding can be made using dried fruit soaked in wine. It will also make a good Christmas present, packed in a glass jar'

7, 200-220°C/400-425°F, for 20 to

Crisp vegetables are best with this rather than purees. I would serve a dish of cabbage prepared with a flavoured vinegar which raises an ordinary vegetable to something rather special.

Sweet and sour cabbage Sarves 4 to 5 1lb/455g white cabbage or

2oz/60g butter

1 thsp brown sugar 2 tbsp fruit vinegar

Shred the cabbage finely. Heat the butter in a heavy frying pan or wok. Stir the cabbage in the butter, and after a minute or so, add the brown sugar. Cook a little longer and then add the vinegar. Raise the beat, and stir vigorously for 20 seconds. Serve while the cabbage is still slightly crunchy and with the pan juices ponred over it.

Filo pastry apple tart Makes 4

4 dessert apples 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

baking sheet, and bake in the centre of a pre-heated oven at gas mark 4, 180°C, 350°F, for 10 to 12 minutes. When just cool enough to handle, ease the pastries out of the ramekins and transfer to small serving plates. Heat the apricot jam and water, and spoon this glaze over the apple. Scatter hot toasted almonds on top and serve immediately, with or without

This is not worth preparing onless you use good quality apricots and a muscat of the quality you would drink.

1lb/455q dried apricots 1 bottle muscat wine

Wash and dry the apricots. Pack into a 1 kilo glass preserving jar, and fill to the top with the wine. Leave for at least 48 hours, or even better, a week. Shake occasionally. You will notice bow the apricots plump out and absorb the wine. Serve a few for each guest in a wine glass with a little of the juice. or let people spear their own from

COLLECTING

Healthy cup of kindness

"I don't know what purpose this curious object was meant to serve," said the owner. "I have a nasty feeling it's a funeral urn, but Hugo insists it's a punch bowl with a lid to keep the contents warm. Absurd, of course. Salad, perhaps, but who ever heard of a wooden punch bowl?"

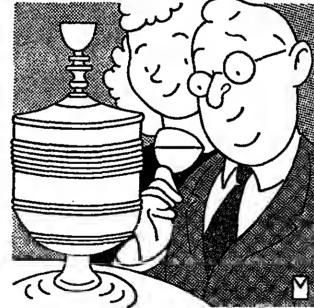
"Your husband isn't far wrong," replied the valuer, "It's a late 17th-century wassail bowl for holding ale, cider or wine flavoured with sugar, spices and apples, sometimes made into a frothy drink called lamb's wool by adding the whipped-up whites of eggs."

"A funeral urn in the making But wasn't wassailing a Dickensian word for carol

singing?"
"That was only part of a ceremony going back to pagan times and by no means confined to Christmas. Depending on local tradition, it could take on local tradition, it could take place on Christmas Eve, Christmas Night, New Year's Eve, Twelfih Night, Shrove Tuesday, Hallowe'en or All Saints' Day. 'Waes hael' — Anglo Saxon for 'good health' — was a loast drunk in the course of a tour of the local orchards to ensure a good crop of fruit."
"Sounds as good an excuse

as any for going on a bender. But surely they didn't cart a thing like this around with them? It weighs a ton."

Smaller versions without lids, and shaped either as bowls or goblets, were draped with ribbons, rosemary and



evergreens, and carried from house to house by the village girls who offered a drink from it in return for money. Yours is rather grand — a status symbol kept at home by a well-to-do farmer who would bring it out for the occasion, reversing the usual process by offering drink to the wassailers. The tradition is preserved even today, when hot toddy and mince pies are produced for carol singers."

You haven't seen the carol singers we get around here. They should be so lucky. But

imported into Europe from the West Indies from about 1515 — originally for the reputed medicinal value of its sawdust, made into gruel for the treatment of unmentionable discover."

Obsessed with these curative properties we prefer not to talk about?"

"Some were made of sycamore but limmer vites were the

"You say the sweetest

They should be so lucky. But why is it so heavy? Is it loaded with lead?"

"No, but it's made of lignum vitae—the wood of life—which is heavier than water. It was turned on the lathe. The ordinary pole lathe wasn't equal to dealing with so hard a material, and a machine had to be developed with a wheel at least six feet in diameter, is heavier than water. It was

diseases.

"All that effort to produce

or the exertions of two or three

"If you wanted to sell it, you'd be the first to agree that it was all worth while. Being complete with its lid and a knob formed as a spice-cup, it could easily fetch a four-figure sum. The most famous example is part of a Charles II set that belonged to Lord Cullen of Ashbourne and is now in the Victoria & Albert Museum. The bowl and n set of cups stand on a table with spiral legs, flanked by a pair of candle-stands — all in lignum vitae relieved with ivory. Others are known without lids, but with silver mounts - usually unmarked, and not always original, so it's no help in dating them precisely."

"Weren't they ever made nf anything other than lignum what's it? Or was everyone

more, but ligrum vitae was the most usual material. Like things."

"It soon came to be appreciated as an impermeable material with prophylactic powers, ideal for pestles, mortars, and drinking vessels turned on the lathe wasn't equal to dealing with so hard a motorial and a machine had stather offer you a stoot of rather offer you a spot of

sherry in a glass."

Peter Philp

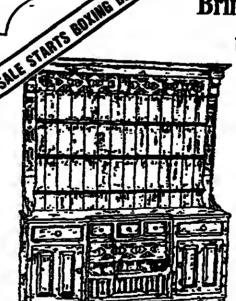
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Continued from page 13







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Collier Row Auction Rooms, 122 Collier Row Road (0708 22824). Today, 4pm. CROYDON, SURREY: Antique

and modern furniture and Rosan & Co, 144-150 London Rosad (01-688 1123). Today,

STURMINSTER NEWTON, DORSET: General furniture Richard M.Burden, Bleak House, Hazelbury Brysn (025 86 424). Wednesday, 9.30pm. LONDON SE13: Antique and

household furniture and Allen of Lee, 165 Lee High Road (01-852 3145). Thursday, 2pm.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX: Victorian, 20th-century and repro furniture and effects. Prudential Chichester, Baffins Hati, Baffins Lane (0243 787548). Thursday, 10sm.



 Major London salerooms are closed for Christmas; business resumes on January 3. Christie's will then open its premises at Friday, 7pm. King Street, St James's, which will be given over to a lean exhibition "The Anglo-Dutch Garden" (above) which cele-brates the tercentenary of the accession of William and Mary

LONDON E17: Antiques and general effects.
Antique Barn Auction Rooms,
89 Grange Road (01-509 2728).
Thursday, 6.30pm.
and modern furniture and
effects.
Durrants, 10 New Market (0502
712122). Friday, 10.30am.

BECCLES, SUFFOLK: Antique and modern furniture and

Cruso & Wilkin, Auction Centre, Common Road, Snettisham (DersIngnam 42656). Friday, 10.30am. WADEBRIDGE, CORNWALL: Artique furniture and

LEICESTER: Victorian and later furniture and effects.

Nigel Dearman & Co, 66 Churchgate (0533 21416). Friday, 11am.

KINGS LYNN, NORFOLK: General furniture and effects.

collectables. Lambrays, The Platt (020 881 3593). Finday, noon. PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX: General antiques. South Coast Auctions, Red Lion (0273 509214).

Antique furniture and effects. Stride & Son, Southdown

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX:

House, St Johns Street (0243 780207). Friday, 10.30am. Jenny Gilbert

Lugubrious elks, glasses of glogg



(and I choose the erb with care) you Stockholm, Sweden, on a Sunday before Christmas - or still, be there on the Saturday afternoon, as an

You will find the city all celebration, all candles on its siren-toots, the little pleasure steamers sail one by one, bedecked with lights and tinsel, taking happy office parties on cruises through the archipelago. Music rings perpetually above the outdoor skating rink, where young

and old swoon and stagger beneath the floodlights, while along the wharves suburban burghers and their wives, attended by burbling children, load their Volvos with Christmas trees from waterfront vendors. The shops are decorated in the

fastidious Swedish way, opulent but not bloated, and are attended by a host of Christmas elves; elves animate and inanimate, elves plump and elves skinny, mechanically nodding or breathing elves, winking elves and dancing elves and elves sometimes flat on their backs asleep. In windows everywhere, high and low, electric candelabra cheerfully shine. Here and there a pungent, vinous smell attracts you, and upon payment of



Christmas shopping: a Swede carries off his purchase from the warket

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The Best Meal in the World comes but once a year, discovers Jan Morris,

who samples the superlative in the pre-Christmas magic of Sweden's capital

few krona a gloved hand reaches out of a dark street-stall, like a messenger from the forest, to hand spicy mulled wine of the Swedes. Here there are people like

Lapps, with high cheeks, slant eyes and fur-lined boots. There are gaunt, elderly aristocrats in astrakhan hats. Rosy, laughing girls cat ice-creams in case windows, and old men in boats potter around the ice-strewn harbour, fishing. Halffrigid but ever dauntless, as the sun goes down, the poor sentries stand in their hoxes outside the empty royal palace, or march stiffly up and down the cobbled streets behind, while from the great, gilded church of Storkyrkan nearby comes the festive music of

Is it a dream? Brrr . . . it is not. It can be extremely cold in Stockholm at Christmas, Bitter blow the sea winds, slippery with snow are the lanes of the Old City, and there are times when, however stoic your temperament or ascetic your tastes, you find yourself running the last few yards to the comfort of the coffee shop. But then that is the glory of the place and the moment - that so grand a city should be celebrating so merrily in the December gloom of the north.

Sunday dawns brilliant, we may be almost sure. The Best Meal is drawing close, but first you must honour an old Stockholm tradition, and go out to Skansen on the ferry: through the icy harbour, past the big night boat from Helsinki, leaving the spires and gabled houses of the Old City like an antique engraving behind you. Skansen is Stockholm's cele-

brated and beloved folk museum, a large hilly park a mile or two from the centre of town, in which old buildings of all sorts have been lovingly reconstructed, indig-enous animals and birds are cherished, and Swedishness in a generic kind reaches a conservational apogee. It is a marvellous place always, but on a Sunday like ours it is magical, for then balf Stockholm is out there for the Skansen Christmas bazaar.

The core of this fete is a rambling assemblage of stalls offering all sorts of Christmassy Scandinavian objects - straw goats, and hats with ear-flaps, and little lanterns, and painted wooden borses, and sheepskins, and furry boots, and heart-shaped sweetmeats. People wearing old Swedish costume sell these goods, the women in embroidered caps and voluminous skirts, the men in jerkins and quaint hats, and now and then a thin Swedish-style Santa Claus stalks through, his reindeer impersonated by a colleague bent double beneath a blanket and crowned with a pair of

Around the edge of the bazaar things are livelier still. There the glogg flows, and men are grilling herrings on racks over open fires. A hundred thousand Swedish ducks congregate with confident quacks at the edge of their pond, demanding tithits, and all over the place bundled children are to be

seen petting squirrels, feeding reindeer or in eye-to-eye confrontation with lumbrious elks. look down upon the goings-on: into the wooden church beyond the lake an elderly blind couple, well-wrapped, tap their way towards the carol concert.

Getting hungry? The smell of the glogg and the grilled herrings does it, but never mind, it is nearly time to eat. The light is already beginning to fade, but the Best Meal lasts all afternoon, we have plenty of time to walk back to town along the hilariously skiddy. pavements beneath the big bare Past the waterfront we go, where

the white pleasure-steamers announce their yuletide sailings, and past the statue of Charles XII the conqueror, pointing his sword peremptorily towards Leningrad, and presently we stand in the lee of the Stockholm Royal Opera House, flambeaux flaring bravely in the wind along its high parapet. Since 1895 the Operakailaren, on its ground floor, has been the most celebrated restaurant in Sweden, and for many years it has served the most famous of all the world's smorgasbords. This magnificent

The Swedes are at their most genial, their most generous and their least ungluttonous

repast is what we have come to Stockholm for.

They serve it every day at the Operakallaren, but Sunday is the best day because then, by a longestablished custom, Stockholmers like to go there en famille, and a Sunday shortly before Christmas is best of all, for under the blessing of St Lucia you may then share the pleasures of the Swedes at their most genual, their most generous and (I choose my words carefully egain, for they are an absternious people) their least ungluttonous.

The ambience of this meal is tremendous. The great baroque dining-room is decorated with a series of mythological paintings which were thought in the 1890s to be downright indecent, but now just seem amiably nubile, and it looks out through big windows to the harbour and the palace. The victuals are displayed on a gigantic table in the middle, and above them, just for Christmas, is suspended a large gingerbread mode! of the Opera House itself. The light of the chandeliers is subdued. the warmth is palpable, and the head waiter who shows you so courteously to your table looks like a Baltic duke.

White, white is your table-cloth. velvety your chair, fastidiously polished the cutlery, and before you get any further here is your glass of the Operakallaren's own aquavit, Stenborgare, named for an 18th-century opera singer, subtly flavoured with fennel and



Winter sports: (top) a fisherman tries his lack in the harbour; behind him is the Swedish Touring Club. The Operakallaren's head waiter (above) displays some of the delights of the restaurant's smorgasbord

anise, and available nowhere else. Skoll! Like aromatic fire it goes down, and you are ready in body and spirit for the Best Meal in the It is a feast of feasts, not only for

food, but of life and sociability, too. The Swedes are famously reserved, but once their shyness is broached they are the most companionable of people and as you line up, plate in hand, for nourishment, kindly voices are sure to guide you towards the most interesting pickled herring, explain to you the history of Stenborgare, introduce you to their mother-in-law Mrs Andersson or urge little Erik to stand up straight when he is addressing

Little Erik, actually, is sure to be standing up straight aiready, dressed as he is in his very best suit, with a bow tie and a rather uncomfortable collar, and his sister Eva is extremely smart in blue check, and Mrs Andersson is a most elegant old dame, and altogether your companions present a splendid picture of plump well-being and goodwill, as they urge you to shovel another portion of elk-meat on to the corner of

Elk-meat, or Swedish caviare, or salmon from great ravaged carcasses, or game, or berries, or cheeses, or cream, or prawns, or pickles, or reindeer tongue - "you can always come back for more," says Mrs Andersson encouragingly. We take her advice, too, for in fact the food is not very filling, the afternoon is long, another Stenborgare presently turns up from nowhere, and the conversation is delightfully digestive, "Will you not have some cloudberries?" asks Eva in her most careful English, "people like them very much in Sweden" - and we do, we

So the hours pass, and soon it is pitch black outside the windows, and the lights of the flambeaux are dancing and flickering on the dark. All is friendly, comfortable, decorous and ample. As soon as one family of Anderssons leaves, another just as well-dressed, just as smiling is shown to its table. One salmon is replaced by the next on the great smorgasbord

shoals of herrings come and go. The head waiter, when at last the time comes for us to leave, no longer seems like a head waiter at all, or even a duke, but more like an old family friend. We say goodbye to him almost nostalgically: by the nature of things, for most of us the Best Meal in the

World can come but once a year. © Times Howepapers Ltd 1988.

TRAVEL NOTES

Swedish National Tourist Office (01-437 5816). An Apex flight to Stockholm with SAS Scandinavian Airlines (01-734 4020) costs £205 return. The Christmas Table at the Operakāliaren costs £30 a the rest of the year costs 220.

Mixed fortunes on the slopes



slopes so far has takes a bad turn.

means that the Alps have been flow from the north have come off under the influence of a north-worse, with only the Dolomites westerly air flow with occasional having anything like decent cover disturbances bringing variable at all levels.

eastern end of the Alps. So even to those areas which are already the low lying resorts around worse off. So unless this trend is Salzburg have had masses of snow 900m reversed there is a danger of a Ober Gurgi and St Anton have had mases in the western half of the superb conditions. This should be Alps. sufficient to see the Austrian resorts through Christmas and the

The news from the New Year even if the weather

been mixed. The Further west the snow has been weather has been less consistent. Although the rms dominated all at high levels in the French resorts SKI month by high pres- have had good form, lower down REPORT sure to the west of the cover is sparse and would not France and low stand up well to heavy traffic.

pressure around Finland. This Italian resorts sheltered from the

The weather is, however, on the The overall impact of this move. Unfortunately the immediweather pattern is to give the best ate prospect is for a milder soothsnow to the northern side of the westerly air stream to bring a thaw and the higher resorts such as repetition of recent poor Christ-

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Robin Young on the pleasure of scouring the woods and ditches for the detritus of nature and

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the Lambeth way, looking foolishly between 8-10p an hour. My cheerful, or the Barratt way (perhaps you remember the advertisements), looking like dining hall. insurance men or rent collectors going about their busi-Botham or Jimmy Savile way (for sponsorship money to go to charity). like Wainwright (to commune with nature), John Hillaby (to commune £17.95. The danger is that the with people), Mark Wall- slow-burn might spread to you the late Dr Barbara Moore (to prove a point).

I, though, am a fully paid-up member of the acquisitive society. When I go for a walk, it is to see what I can pick up oo the way. You could call it inland beachcombing.

to Richard Mabey, the author of Food for Free, but at this though, the incentive to find time of year there is not a lot your own wood is rather to be had from the wildlife larder. There is, on the other hand, in the wake of Dutch elm disease and the 1987 hurricane, plenty of what I can only call driftwood. So now is the time for walking à la Wenceslas - gathering winter

log fire. Do not let the people gone. who sell inefficient "effect" fires tell you different. Gas log-effect fires cost £90 to enough to have inherited open £120, give out cosmetic flames fireplaces, hearths and chimand no heat and cost 30 to 40p ney pots among their "period

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In a corner of the country rich in

explained, such as the perfect mound

of Silbury Hill and the giant circle of

standing stones at Avebury, the

echoes can at times seem so strong

that it is easy to envisage an artery

The trouble is that as you push southwards towards Salisbury Plain,

you learn abruptly — what an educa-

tion barbed wire can be - that a

more recent occupying force, the British Army, is still in situ and

shows no signs of leaving. To blame

the soldiers alone is a mistake; farmers, foresters, herdsmen, enclo-

sers, architects, railway builders,

ditch-diggers have all helped over

the ages to make the oldest ways the

opostrophized but alluring things

still loud with trade.

they are today.

here are many ways shops and fitters will not of walking. Towns- touch them. Gas and air people used to do it combinations might heat a small room, but they, too, cost

Nor is there any satisfactory substitute for a wooden log. If ocss. Nowadays it is more you want a real waste of time, fashionable to do it the lan try one of those machines that turns old newspapers into "slow-burning logs". British Wildlife Promotions sell them to the ecologically dedicated at £17.95. The danger is that the ington (to exercise the dog) or when you realize what a time consuming business paper logrolling is, and calculate that for every hour of effort you are recycling fuel worth no more than a few pence.

Out in the country, logs still sell at about £25 a load. What you get in a load is partly a inland beachcombing.

In most seasons I would dedicate this style of walking

Not get in a load is partly a matter of luck, but if it comes in a one-ton pickup it is not likely to weigh much more than half a ton. In town, greater. In Islington, north London, a small hardware shop sells bags of fire logs that sometimes weigh no more than 25lb at £2 a bag (equivalent to £180 a ton). This is eloquent testimony to the attachment that people in opand-coming areas feel for forms of heating that are There is no substitute for a supposed to have been and

It also proves that people in town houses who are lucky an hour to run. Gas board features" are not troubled

that Jane Whittle writes her explor-

atory collection, Twenty Wesser

Walks (Hobnob Press, £14.95). This

is pathfinding writing; the prose

feels out the texture of the routes as

it goes. The style is unexpectedly dense and heightened for o "mere" book of walks, until you realize it is

no such thing, rather a foray into the

This is no step-by-step guide, but

discursive and demanding, o fully blown and heartfelt volume with

which you have to go all the way or not at all. It is a wonderfully

stimulating companion for 20 very

accessible routes (average distance,

eight miles), directed at the walker who likes to think not only about

where he or she is going, but about

how history get him there.

very soul and spirit of the place.



Pulling old wood from the undergrowth brings one tangibly closer to nature: "inland beachcombing" in a Surrey pine forest

about smokeless-zone regulations when they have wood to

Take a country walk with a handcart, a barrow, a homemade bogey or a pram and it is easy to pick up a fiver's worth of logs and kindling without strenuous exertion. Open up the back of a family estate car and you could, with luck, keep the home fire burning for a

You to have use your commoo sense about the legal niceties. There is no right to walk in and help yourself where woodmen have been clear-felling, or coppice work has left piles of loppings and toppings lying about. Con-tractors will have paid for the firewood that is available in marketable quantities. Taking it would be theft.

On the other hand, there is

You have to go all the way

A review of four guides for the rambler, armchair and long-distance

byways first confirmed by the move-ment of Polacelithic feet or earlier. Dictionary of Place Names in the craftication of learning that Catt-

British Isles (Bloomsbury, £15.95).

Just like routes, names contain

elements of the place's evolutionary

story; like routes, they can be

variously blurred or bold, suggestive or unambiguous. Nor do the par-allels end there, for they are no less the product of successive waves of

Room's collection does not set out

to be exhaustive, but instructive. Its

lexicographical counterpart is a

Concise Oxford rather than an

O.E.D. This allows him sufficient

space in each entry to do a good bit of

explaining, over and above the mere "translation" from Old English,

Norse, Celtic or whatever.

unmanaged and neglected woodland where fallen boughs have lain undisturbed sometimes for years. No one is going to complain if you tidy up a bit in a sensible way. Some landowners will positively welcome an offer of some clearing and felling if yoo can convince them that you know what you are doing and will behave responsibly.

Some of the Forestry Commissioo's forest manhave been felling, prices and conditions varying from place to place. A bylaw otherwise forbids the removal of any official admitted, prosecu-

prosecutions at all in the last six months, but on every forest walk I take I see other people, like me, picking up choice timber remnants.

Since there is a limit to what the members of a family can easily transport cross-country, it is well to know your firewoods before you start, especially if you intend to burn

the wood in an open fireplace.

Though there is a lot of it about, elm is of little use. It agers also issue licences to burns, according to an old gather firewood after they country saw, "like churchyard mould - even the flames are very cold". Conifers burn very quickly. Birch is better, silver birch better still. Poplar gives wood, living or dead, from the off acrid choking smoke but commission's forests, but, an apple scents the room sweetly. official admitted, prosecu-tions are in fact reserved for firewood when old and dry. professionals who remove Beech (because of its shallow On the other hand, there is appreciable quantities of roots a common victim of no shortage these days of wood. There have been no gales and storms) burns bright

Roman reference to the nearby

waterfalls on the River Swale; or

that the Channel Island of Sark

derives its name from the Old Norse

serkr (shirt), because of their similar

A greater benefit is to be found in

the volume's introductory section

and a sort of survival kit on the

meaning and origin of frequently recurring place name elements. But

the author demonstrates throughout

that no matter how sure you think

you are about the components, you can still be hadly misled by the whole. Room deserves a medal for

trying to sort out the signposts.

and clear after it has seasoned for o year - so the hurricane's windfalls are burning well now. Chestnut needs longer.

The best of all firewoods is ash, which has the singular quality of burning as well when it is newly cut as when

Ash green or ash brown, Is fit for a Queen with a golden crown.

So the fuel foragers' El Dorado is an abandoned ash

Stopping to haul a fallen bough out of a ditch, or pulling old wood from the undergrowth, brings one taugibly closer to nature. It gets your hands dirty, and reveals a lot of unsuspected wildlife that might otherwise have gone unnoticed. And if you are lucky you will find some bolly, ivy and possibly mistletoe for the Christmas decorations.

and outlandish parts of the globe, chronicled, explained and annotated by 10 ambitious walkers.

Some are 190 miles, others only 60. Yet, though the colossal utainscapes captured here in word, deed and colour photography, are Olympian, the standards of

Among the most alluring of a selection spanning five continents are the routes around the Annapurus Circuit and the tompletons scenery of the Paine National Park in Patagenia. Including the preparation and the travel out and back, these epic walks will take weeks to accomplish.

☐ Back in Dorset, Rodney Legg has written two bacolic little collections of fairly serious strolls with an overage length of five miles. Pablished by the Dorset Publishing Company, Wincanton, Somerset, they are devoted respectively to Walks in Hardy Country (£3.25) and Purbeck Walks (£3.95). Wainwright-like, they lead the reader by the hand every step of the way along a combined total of 43 lovingly plotted circuits. Alan Franks

Anthony Cox visits a shop which will chart your hike over the Downs or set your course

into the wild blue yonder

The intrepid walker can easily find the road to Kathmandu and beyond, to the "forbidwhile the AA Directory of Town Plans (£15.95), although less romantic, will prove a good friend to motorists visiting unfamiliar places ocarer to

The important thing about maps is to choose the right one for your purpose," says Peter Ashworth, of Edward Stanford Ltd, Covent Garden, Londoo, the publishers of the Tiberan map and operators of what is

finest examples of mapping that you will find. French IGN maps (about £4.95) are very close to OS maps. However, official Swiss maps are excellent," he says.

"The OS Routemaster, oine £2.40 sheets covering Britain, is excellent for the motorist. a scale which caters for cyclists, who tend to cycle off the edge too quickly. Fortunately for them, there is a good series

at £2.50 each.

The OS Outdoor Leisure erized its maps and sees a series (£3.75) is pec

good for walkers in popular ar-eas, while the Official Tourist Map series (Estate Publications, aboot £2.50) is fine for motorists wishing to see the sights in a holiday area, but it

wouldn't be suitable for walk- motorist as it is to the walker. ers because it lacks the detail For a drive from Brighton to they need.

"I like Michelin maps for motorists. They are always kept up-to-date and at £2 each they are very cheap. For £6.50 you can buy a Michelin whole-of-Britain four-map pack in a plastic folder."

Stanfords is an emporium of national and international maps and guide books for almost every leisure, business, use ooe can think of - from maps for aviators to charts for sailors.

"We haven't got maps for potholers", confesses Mr Ashworth. "But we do stock a" book which gives maps of places to stand on motorways in order to thumb a lift. And we've got geological mans which gardeners like to use."

The organization which has put its name oo the map is undoubtedly the Ordnance Survey, Britain's official mapmaker for nearly 200 years. The OS, which started life in 1791 as a military organization, is now a high-technology civilian government department employing nearly 3,000

With a brief from the Govcrarient to "expand the market for OS products", it is den" Tibetan city of Lhasa - advertising its wide range of with the help of a £5 map, maps, atlases and guides as Christmas "stocking tillers" or 'quality gifts".

The RA has long taken an

interest in the OS with the aim of getting the best possible information for the walker shown on maps. According to the RA, the most suitable OS maps for walkers are those produced to the scales of 1:25,000 (First Series, £1.90; Pathfinder, £2.80; Outdoor Leisure, £3.75) and 1:50,000 claimed to be the world's (Laodranger, £3,10). The largest specialist map shop.

"The products of the Ordnance Survey are among the Maps a "useful" series. A Maps a "useful" series. A complete set of 204 Landranger sheets will cover the whole of Great Britaio, at a

cost of £570. Ao alternative to buying maps for walking is to join the 63,000-strong RA (I Wands-worth Road, London SW8 2XX; 01-582 6878) and make But the OS doesn't really have use of its inexpensive mem-

bers-only OS map hire service. The RAC and the AA each publish a wide range of maps and atlases for motorists and of Bartholomew Leisure Maps for general leisure use. In addition, the AA has comput-

growing de-mand from companies buying basic AA maps on disc and loading them on to their own computer screens to develop their own

Scale is as important to the Aberdeen, for example, a scale of 10 miles to an inch (1:625,000) should be adequate, but such a map would not be very helpful when touring in remote rural areas.

An appropriate scale for that

would be two miles to the inch (1:126,720). Among the many popular motoring atlases available at four miles to the inch are the OS Road Atlas (£10.95), The RAC Motoring Atlas of Britain (£4.95), and, from the A.A., The Complete Atlas of Britain (£14.95). There are also atlases at a scale of three miles to the inch: the OS Touring Atlas (£15) and the AA 3 Mile Road Atlas of Britain (£16.95), which is the preferred choice of Peter Ashworth at Edward

The RAC also has the regional Navigator South East (£6.95) at 1.6 miles to an inch.

Stanford.

Man shops: Edward Stan ford, 12-14 Long Acre, London WC2, 01-836 1321; McCarta, 122 King's Cross Road, London, WCI, 01-278 8276; the Map Shop, 15 High Street, Unton-upon-Severn, Hereford & Worcester, 06846-3146

Inevitably, the book centains, as does any dictionary worth its salt, little plots of pure screndinity for the [] The same principle, applied to taries of the Wessex Ridgeway, the LEATHER SPORTS CASUAL From £9.95 PAP + EL SE These beautifully made shoes are ideal five smart colours, beige, brown, grey, These beautitury made shoes are meat casual wear or sportswear. They are extremely comfortable, hardwearing, perfect for all your leisure and especially for all those of you who are planning active holidays. The uppers are made from 1st grade leather which is soft, supple and durable. The soles are made from a grant from a gran pale blue with white trim and white with blue trim; all with colour co-ordinated soles Childrens sizes 10-2½ inc half sizes © £9.95 and ladies and gentlemens sizes 3-11 inc half sizes © £12.95. These top quality shoes are approximately half their normal retail price. If you are not completely satisfied return within 7 days for an immediate gives a really good grip. They are well constructed with a support, a padded for comfort and a SUPER-CROP SOLE PATTERS towelling lining. 🕿 Ambleside 05394 34000 to place your credit card order. Please allow 25 days for delivery. PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS White with bine tries Pale Lion with white tries

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I John Cleare's Trekking (Unwin Hyman, £1495) is the stuff of which attainable dreams are made; 13 treks in some of the most spectacular A look at the little ice age



This skating scene would have been only too familiar to the Dutch painter Hendrick van Avercamp, who lived through the European little ice age

Continent. Dutch traders kept

records of how often the canals froze, and these show

that seventeenth century win-

ters were appreciably colder

than in this century. Also records of snowfall and other

weather events in Switzerland

going back to the early six-

teenth century tell a similar

But these records provide

an incomplete picture of both

the global extent of the Little

Ice Age and when it started. In

this context the most cooving-

Debris dating

shows glaciers

advance rate

ing and extensive evidence

comes from the records of the

movements of glaciers in the

mountainous regions of Eu-

of colder wetter weather and

in Europe more recent move-

WEATHER EYE

It is widely recognized that our traditional image of a White Christmas is based, in part, on a memory of the more frequent cold winters of the past. Often termed the "Little Ice Age", the period from the mid-sixteenth to the midnineteenth century appears to have featured somewhat colder weather than either the twentieth century or the early Middle Ages. But is this more a consequence of selective reporting or is there unconivocal evidence of a markedly cooler period?

The most direct evidence of climatic change is temperature records, which extend back to the early 1700s in a few places in Europe. These confirm that apart from the summer, all the seasons have warmed up significantly in the last 100

rope. In addition the dating of debris deposited in the termiyears or so. As far as cold winters are concerned there is pienty of indirect evidence. The fact that the Thames froze in London from time to time and on eight occasions between 1608 and 1814 the ice was sufficiently thick to hold Frost Fairs is a measure of how cold some of the winters were.

A more comprehensive pic-

ture has been built up on the

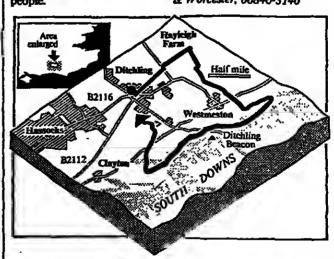
nal moraines of glaciers around the world can be used

to pinpoint when they were at their most advanced state. The advantage of glaciers is that they smooth out year to year fluctuations and give o clear picture of longer term trends. Periods of growth are correlated with several years ments can be calibrated in terms instrumental records of temperature and rainfall in adjacent lowland regions. Analysis of the evidence of

glacier movements reinforce and extend the historical records of weather fluctuations. They confirm that after a somewhat less well documented expansion in the fourteenth century, in the Alps, a period of retreat was followed by a major surge in the second half of the sixteenth century. After this initial expansion

they remained extensive until around 1850 with the worst decades being the 1690s, 1770s and 1810s. In the last century or so there has been an almost continuous retreat, with only minor reversals in the 1880s, 1920s and in recent

The same though less complete picture emerges from around the world. So there is no doobt that over most of the continents, especially at mid and high latitudes the weather was appreciably colder be-tween 1550 and 1850. This confirms that the images of past colder, snowier winters are correct - a form of climatic nostalgia.



WEEKEND WALK

Ditchling, one of the most and home of several theatrical celebrities, provides the ideal starting point for today's walk. The route involves o section of escarpment and also follows two old chalk tracks. There is more to Sussex than the Downs and the walk includes several lesser-known paths in the low Sussex Weald, with rights of way.

The circular walk of about 61/2 miles starts in the centre of Ditchling village, where there is a large, free car park. At the central crossroads in the vilage, walk up the high street for a few hundred yards before turning right down Farm Lane. Continue on the bridleway to pass the village tennis courts, cross a stream, continue across a field to a enclosed path to a road. Cross this and follow the track ahead to a cross-tracks at Hayleigh

Tern right here and follow this track towards the Downs escarpment, which lies ahead. The track narrows to become a footpath between hedges and W. J. Barroughs after about a mile it emerges at

a road. If you turn right here, in a few hundred yards you will reach the loterestion Downland church at West-

However, to continue the walk cross the road and ascend the chalk bostal ahead, gradnally climbing onto the Downs at Streat Hill. From here, bead west (ie, turn right), following the ridge of the Downs. After a while cross a road to reach Ditchling Beacon, at 813ft the highest point in East Sussex. From the trig point, con-

tinne along the South Downs Way for just under a mile to find a bridlegate on the right of the path. A further half-mile along the South Downs Way from here leads to the famous landmark of the Jack and Jill windmills above Clayton. However, to continue to Ditchling, go through the bridlegate to pick up Burnt House Bostal

descending from the Downs.

At a road turn right and is a 100 yards or so cross over a stile on the left. Follow this right of way through fields, short patches of woodland, across plank bridges and stiles to emerge on the B2112 in Ditchling village. Here is a very fine Downland church attractive village pond, 280 and a number of traditional ale

Alan Castle

BBC1

8.15 Saturday Stars Here with Jimbo and the Jet Set (r), 8.20 Comers (r), 8.40 ChuckleVision

Chuckle Vision

9.00 Going Live Cartoons, guests, music and competitions presented by Sarah Greene and Philip Schofield 12.12 Weather.

12.15 Film: YogPs First Christmas (1980). A made-for-talevision feature length Hanna-Barbera animated brisponting.

animated adventure.
1.55 News with Lisa Davidson. Weather 2.00 Tom and Jerry in The Night Before Christmas (r).

2.10 Film: Mary Poppins (1964) starring Julie Andrews, Dick Van Dyke and David Tomlinson. Perennial musical fantasy favourite, Directed by Robert Steepenson

Stevenson. (Ceefax)
4.25 Tiger on the Tiles. A

documentary, presented and narrated by Desmond Morris, on the behaviour of felines.

4.55 News and weather

5.05 Bob's Christmas Full House.
Bob Monktouse with a seasonal edition of the bingo quiz game in which representatives of four charties have the charce of charities have the chance of winning prizes for their own wining prizes for their dwn organizations — the Queen Elizabeth Foundation for the Disabled, the National Blind, Deaf and Rubella Association, the National Children's Home and

(Ceefax)
5.45 Pim: Santa Claus — the Movie
(1985) starring Dudley Moore,
Burgess Meredith and Judy
Comwell. Patch the elf is sent to the real world after making a hash of Father Christmas's North Pole toy-making factory. Arriving in New York, Patch teams up with an unscrupulous toy manufacturer and together they develop a magic type of candy that makes children forget about Father Christmas. This successful product threatens the very existence of Christmas. Directed by Jeannot Szwarc.

7.30 'Allo 'Allo! A new plan is thought up by Michelle and Crabree to get the British airmen back to England; and the stolen Gestapo money is planted on Captain Bertoreill by the Colonel and Lt Gruber who then inform on him to Herr Filck.

(Ceefax)
8.00 Last of the Summer Wine.
Compo, Clegg and Seymour,
dressed as Father Cressed as Father
Christmases, are collecting for the church when they are landed with an errand of mercy to protect the formidable Aunty
Weinwright who has had s premovition that her second-

premonition that her secondhand shop is to be broken into on
Christmas Eve. Starring
Michael Aidridge, Bill Owen, Peter
Sallis and, as Aunty
Waknwright, Jean Alexander.
(Ceefax)

9.00 News and sport. With Lisa
Davidson. Weather

9.10 Film: Jegged Edge (1985)
starring Jeff Bridges and Glenn
Cloes. Courtroom drama about
a husband accused of murdering
his millionairess wife, His
defence attorney only takes the
case because she believes in
his innocence — and learns to love
him. Directed by Richard
Marquand. (Ceefax)

10.55 Christmas Eve with Val
Doonican. With guests Elaine
Palge, Gorden Kaye and Brian

11.35 Etter Cremension of Christmas

11.35 First Communion of Christmas from Coventry Cathedral, Includes Incartation performing a new Mass of the Incarnation by Tony

Himigan (simultaneous broadcast with Radio 4). am Film: The Searchers (1956) starring John Wayne and Jeffery Hunter, Western drama about an embittered Texas rancher on a five year search for his niece — the kidnapped sole survivor of a Comanche attack on his ranch during his absence. Directed by John Ford. (Ceefax)

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-em begins with Saturday
Sport introduced by Geoff Clark;
7.30 Wideawake for young
people presented by Torumy
Boyd, Timmy Maffett and
Michael Strachan
9.25 Motormouth on Christmas
Eve. Includes an animated tale,
The Reluctant Dragon; and,
from 11.00, a 60th birthday
tribute to Mickey Mouse
including an appearance by Roose including an appearance by Roger

Rabbit

12.00 Physical Pursuits. A special
Christmas edition presented by
Earnonn Holmes, Emlyn
Hughes and Jane Bennett in which
three teams — the Superstars,
the Physical All Stars and the Rest
of the World — compete in a
none-too-serious series of Rabbit

none-too-serious series of quizzes and games

1.00 News with Sue Carpenter

1.05 LWT News and weather
followed by Saint & Greavale. Ian and Jammy review the week's football news and look forward to the holiday's programme

1.50 Film: Whinle the Poots and the Honey Tree (1965). Wait Disney's version of A. A. Milne's classic children's tale about a small bear —sver hungry for honey — who

— ever hungry for honey — who lives in Hundred Acre Wood. Directed by Wolfgang Directed by Wolfgang
Reitherman
Film: The Ugly Dechsund
(1965) starring Dean Jones,
Suzanne Pleshette, Charlie
Ruggles and Kelly Thordsen. A
Walt Disney tale of a wealthy
family who adopt a Great Dane
pup as a companion for their
four dachsund bitches. Directed
by Norman Tokar 2.20

tour dachsund bitches. Directed by Norman Tokar

4.05 3-2-1 presented by Ted Bogers. A celebrity special in which a host of stars try to win money for the Wishing Well Appeal, the British Heart Foundation and the British Bone Marrow Appeal, Among those taking part are Christopher Biggins, Geoff Capes, Suzanne Mizzi, Linda Nolan and Maria Whittaker

9.30 Storybook Classics: Santabear's First Chir

Santabear's First Christmas. A
baby snow bear is lost in the
Arctic (r). 10.00 Moneyspinner (r).
10.30 Film: Forever and a Day (1943,
b/w) starring Anna Neagle and
Ray Milland. The story of a
London house and its occupants
from 1804 to the 1941 Bilitz.
Discound by Reas Citic Victor

Directed by Rene Clair, Victor Saville and others

Saville and others

12.30 Empress Wu. Episode 51 (of 65) 1.00 Christmas Star. A
Czech-made version of the Christmas story (r).

1.15 A Child's Christmas in Wales starring Denholm Eliott. A grandfather recalls past Christmases for his grandson (r).

2.15 Gymnastics. The Kraft international.

3.30 Film: The Little Match Girl (1987) starring Keshia Knight Pulliam and William Daniels. A made-for-television re-working of Hans Christian Andersen's story about a poor little girl who

re-unites s feuding, wealth family. Directed by Michael

5.05 News with Sue Carpenter 5.10
LWT News and weather
5.15 The Cannon and Bail Show.
Tommy and Bobby's guests
include Dennis Waterman, Kim
Wilde, Chris de Burgh, Brother
Beyond and Linda Lusardi
6.15 Bobby in Wenderland. With
Bobby Davro, Dave Lee and
Bernle Winters
7.06 Watching Special. Brende and
Malcolm want to be alone but
domestic chores keep them

domestic chores keep them apart until they decide to escape

apart until they decide to escape together to the countryside — and then the birdwatchers descend. Starring Emma Wray and Paul Brown

8.05 Film: The Sign of Four (1983) starring lan Richardson and David Healy. A made-for-television version of Conen Doyle's mystery in which Shertock Homes and Dr Watson investigate a case involving a beautiful women, treasure, an Indian pigmy and a

involving a beautiful women, treasure, an Indian pigmy and a number of unusual deaths.
Directed by Desmond Davis

\$.50 News 10.00 LWT Weather

10.05 Film: No Sex Piesse — We're British (1973) starring Ronnie Corbett and Beryl Reid.
Farcical comedy about the attempts by two bank clarks to hide collections of unsolicited pornography that are being pornography that are being sent to the bank. Directed by Cliff

Over 11.45 Medight Mass from St John's Roman Catholic Church, Banbury, 1.00 Film: Otley (1968) starring Tom Courtenay. A born loser's run of bad luck continues when he

wakes up with a hangover and finds his host murdered. The resulting investigations lead Otley into the world of esplonage and murder. Directed by Dick

Clement.

2.40 Night Network includes the best of 1988's videos; Spike Miligan in the bunker; and Communard Richard Coles reviewing the big screen's new releases. Ends at 5.00

6.00 Faerie Tale Theetre: The
Three Little Pigs starring Billy
Crystal, Valerie Perrine and
Jeff Goldblum. (Oracle)
7.00 News summary and weather
7.05 Hothywood. This 13th and final
part of the series sxamines the
evolution of silents into talkies.
8.05 Game, Set & Match. The final
episode (r). (Oracle)
9.05 Nine on 4. A preview of C4's
collection of arts and performance
programmes
9.15 Tchaikovsky's Women. (see
Choice)

9.75 Tenakovsky's women. (see Choice)

10.35 Creation. The second and final part of s gospel musical based on the Biblical version of how the

the Biblical version of how the world began
11.05 Film: Yanks (1979) starring
Vanessa Redgrave and Richard
Gere. Drama about the Second
World War relationships between
American servicemen and the
local Lancashire population where
they are stationed. Directed by
John Schlesinger

Christmas Turkey. The guests include Dave Edmunds and Tima Turner (r). Ends at 2.30.

nastics 3.15 Film: The Golden Age of Buster Keaton* \$.05 Brockside \$.00 Film: Y Dyn *Neith Ddwyn Y Dolig 7.39 Newyddion 7.48 Anhwyd Sion Com 8.48 Newyddion Newydd 8.55 Film: Y Alwad 16.25 Dsfydd I wen A Chyfeillion Chwarter Candf 11.40 Anwyddion Neddig 12.10ems Closedown.

RTE 1 Startus Blaces The Witole Sheberg 10.30 Action Station Saturday 1.00em I Ne Nancy Drew

John Schlesinger 1.45am Max Headroom's Glant

CHANNEL 4

TELEVISION CHOICE

 Channel's 4 season of music documentaries by Christopher Nupen has constituted one of the more worthwhile raids on the television archives. Now the retrospective is being interrupted for a new Nupen offering, Tchaikovsky's Women (Channel 4, 9.15pm). Cinemagoers will recall that Ken Russell tackled a similar theme in The Music Lovers, but Nupen's style and approach are at the opposite pole. While Russell soared off into flights of sometimes preposterous fancy, Nupen anchors his journey through the composer's musical and private life in an almost pedantic adherence to the facts. At times, indeed, the film takes on the feeling of an illustrated lecture. Not that it is for a second either dry or tedious. The performance of Tchaikovsky's music, embelhished by such artists as the ballerina Cynthia Harvey and soprano Helen Field under the baton of Vladimir Ashkenazy, guarantees constant delight and variety. Nupen's connect-ing theme is Tchaikovsky's preoccupation with young women in the grip of fate, a line that can be plausibly traced from a childhood poem about Joan of Arc to his fascination with characters like Katerina in The Storm, Juliet in Romeo and Juliet and Odette in Swan Lake. As Nupen demonstrates, art and life were often mixed up and never more so than when his identification with yet another doomed heroine, Tatyana in Eugene Onegin, helped to propel him into his disastrous marriage with Antonina Milynkova, At this point, around 1877, we leave the subject with only a glancing



Cynthia Harvey as Katerina Kabanova, one of the female haracters Tchaikovsky became obsessed with (C4, 9.15pm)

Nadezhda von Meck. The good news is that Nupen is planning a second film which will continue the Tchaikovsky story and conclude it.

The Ragged Child (BBC2, 7.50pm) is a television presentation of the much

His kind of woman

praised stage musical by the National Youth Music Theatre about the plight of destitute children in London in the 1840s and the efforts of the

factress he never met, bury, to help them. With a score based on 19th-century popular songs, the piece is performed with great energy and drive, and while the talented young cast may look a little too well-scrubbed by Victorian standards, the treatment is neither prettifying nor sentimental. The programme is introduced by the president of the National Youth Music Theatre, Prince Edward.

Peter Waymark

relationship, with the bene- philanthropist, Lord Shaftes-Pickwick fills the gap

RADIO CHOICE

reference to Tchaikovsky's

longest and strangest female

■ What's this? Christmas Eve and no seasonable whiff of Dickens? Not quite. Though the BBC domestic services carry nothing by Boz (you cannot count the final, repeated, episode of The Best of Times, the Worst of Times (Radio 4, 2.00pm) because Dickens dies in it), the good old World Service has Brian Barnes taking all the parts in his adaptation of Christmas at Dingley Dell (7.01pm), from The Pickwick Papers. It is

repeated at noon tomorrow. Denied Dickens's A Christmas Carol, we shall have to settle for some others in Christmas With the Choral (Radio 2, 7.30pm), the annual explosion of song and orchestral rejoicing from Hudders-field, or Carols from the Minster (Radio 2, 11.00pm). Need I remind you that the

IJ

(5)

Mr Pickwick celebrating Christmas Eve (WS, 7.00pm)

Lessons and Carols from King's College Chapel, Cambridge, is on Radio 4 (3.00pm), with an appetizer, What Sweeter Music, a history of the much-loved service, on Radio 4 at noon. Radio 3's musical offerings Chapter House, from York include a concert performance - the first to use the full score - of Weill's Lady in the Dark indispensable Festival of Nine (3.05pm), with Patricia Hodge

lead roles. Later (7.30), there's the 1988 Salzburg Festival production of La Cenerentola, with Ann Murray as Rossini's Cinders.

· Before turkey and Christmas pud start to stultify your grey matter, make the most of Masterbrain (Radio 4, 7.20pm), with Brain of Britain champions and runners-np doing battle with Mastermind

 The Ambridge Chronicles (Radio 4, 7.50pm) is Peter Mackie'a play about the Archers and their Borsetshire chums as they were between 1914 and 1922. Walter Gabriel was a mere stripling (though the famous chortle was already a trademark), Doris and Dan were courting youngsters, and war was taking its toll. If old George Grundy sounds very much like young Eddy Grundy, it is because Trevor Harrison also plays the granddad who made Eddy possible.

Peter Davalle

9.00 Ceefax 11.15 Carols for Christmas from St David's Half, Cardiff. With the BBC Welsh Chorus and the Fanfare Trumpeters of the Welsh Guards, conducted by John Hugh Thomas

Thomas

12.15 Snocker Review 86 featuring
the World Championship second
round match between Jimmy
White and Stephen Hendry.
Introduced by David Vina with
comment from John Spencer,
Eddle Chariton and John
Visco

Virgo.

2.05 Film: Solomon and Sheba
(1959) starring Yul Brynner and
Gina Lollobrigida. Drama about
the socient conflict between the Israelites and the Egyptians.
Directed by King Vidor

4.20 Exiles. The Austrian poet Erich
Fried returns to his native Vienna

(r). (Ceefax) Messiah. Handel's Messiah. Handel's masterpiece performed at Olavinlinna Castle, Finland, during this year's Savolinna Opera Festival. Featuring Margaret Marshall (soprano); Sarah Walker (mezzo-soprano); Anthony

Rolfe Johnson (tenor); and Petteri Salomaa (bass) with the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra and Chorus conducted by Roger

Norrington 6.20 Gotf 88. Peter Alliss, Sandy Lyle and Nick Faldo look back at the year's golfing highlights.
7.50 The Ragged Child. (see

7.50 The Ragged Critic. (sea Choice)
9.55 The American Film Institute
Salute to Jack Lemmon
introduced by Julie Andrews.
The actor's eight Oscars-winning
career is remembered by,
among others, Walter Matthau,
Billy Wilder, Janet Leigh, Nell
Simon, Steve Martin and Shirley
Mactaine 10.55 Film: The Front Page (1974)

starring Jack Lemmon and Weiter Matthau. Comedy about a newspaperman with a yen for a quieter life who mates the machinetions of his editor when he decides to leave the newspaper for marriage and a job in an advertising agency. Directed by Billy Wilder. (Ceefax) Ends at 12.40am.

Lindsay-Hogg 5.05 Brookside (r). (Oracle)

from Coventry Cathedral 2.40am Super-stars of Wreeting 3.35 Beech Boys: 25 Years Together 8.00 The Greet Sante Claus Caper 6.30-8.00 Christmas Comes to Disneyland.

BORDER As Leadon,
Chatterbox Christmas Party; with
Alad Jones 12.30pcs-1.90 Carols for
Christmas 8.30pcs-1.90 Carols for
Christmas 8.30es. The Greet Santa
Cieus Caper 8.30-8.60 Christmas
Comes to Paciend.

VARIATIONS

CHANNEL As London
except: 12.00soon
America's Top 10 Singles of 1988
12.30pms-1.00 Ace of Aces 5.90em
Christmas Carloons: The Great Senta
Claus Caper 5.30-6.00 Christmes
Comes to Pacland.

GRANADA As London America's Top 10: The Top 10 Shr-glas of 1906 12, 30pm-1.00 Ther's You Teleston: How Your 22 million is Sav-ing Lives. 5.50 The Great Santa Claus Caper 5.50-5.00 Christmas Comes

TVS As London
ercept-12.00socer America's
Too Ten 12.30yrs-1.00 Ace of Aces
5.00 The Greet Santa Caus Caper \$-206.00 Chistones Comes to Padiand.

Top Ten: The Top Ten Singles of 1988 12.30 pm. 1.80 The South We West: With Lawrie Cusyle. 5.00 The Great Sants Claus Capper 5.30 4.00 Christmas Comes to Paciand.

TYNE TEES As London
except-12.00mm
Chetterbox Christmas Party
12.30mm-1.00 Carols for Christmas
5.00mm The Greet Sente Caus Caper 5.30-6.00 Christmas Comes to
Pactend.

ULSTER As London
ALF 5.02-5.05 Sports Results 5.125.16 Ulster Newstime 5.00cm The Great
Santa Caus Caper 5.30-6.00 Christmas Comes to Pacland.

YORKSHIRE As London exman Corners to Packend.

SAC Starts: 9.45 am Years Ahead 19.30 A Houseful of Plants 11.00 Honeysphras 11.30 Volcas of War 12.50 Crientations 12.30 pms Pobol Y Cwm 1.50 Graceland: Al-rican Concert (Paul Simon) 2.15 Gym-rican Concert (Paul Simon) 2.15 Gym-

Jeff Bridges as the widower and suspect (BBC1, 9.10pm)

Redio 1

VHF stereo and MW (medium News on the haif-hour until 12.30pm, then at 2.00, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 9.30 and 12.00

midnight 6.00 Liz 'n' Mark 10.00 Dave Lee Travis 1.00 Adrian Love 2.00 My Top 10 3.06 The Saturday Sequence with Roger Scott 7.00 The Beebs' Lost Beatles Tapes 7.30 Gloris Geynor in Concert 10.30 The P and V Christmas Party 12.00-2.00 Night Rockin' with Tommy Vance

Radio 2

VHF Stereo (accept 1.00pm7.00) & NTW (medium wave)
News on the hour (except
2.00pm and 9.00pm)
4.00 Deve Bussey 4.00
Graham Knight 8.05 David Jacobs
9.00 Sounds of the 80s
Christmas Special 10.00 Anne
Robinson 12.90 Gerald Harper
1.00 The Christmas Huddines
1.30 Musical Half Magic 2.00
A Blessed Christmas 4.00 A House
in a Carden 8.00 Review of the
Sporting Year 7.00 Best the
Record with Keith Fordyce
7.30 Christmas with the Choral
9.30 String Sound 19.50 The 9.30 String Sound 19.50 The Yettles' Winter Wassail 11.00 Carols from the Chapter House 12.05 Alan Dedicoat with Nightrida 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

Alt times in GMT.

7.80 World News 7.93 Twenty-four Hours
7.30 From the Weekles 7.45 Network UK
8.00 World News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15
A Radio Christmas Card 8.00 World News
8.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 The
World Today 9.30 Phandsin News 1050-web
by Sports Roundup 8.45 Personal View
10.00 News Summany 19.07 Here's
Humphi 10.15 Lotter From America 10.39
Humphi 10.15 Lotter From America 10.39
Humphi 10.15 Lotter From America 10.39
Humphi 10.15 Lotter From America 10.30
News about British 11.15 Classical
Record Review 11.30 Londres Midt 12.00
Newsreel 12.15 Multifrack 3 12.45 Sports
Roundup 1.00 World News 1.09 Twentyfour Hours 1.30 Network UK 1.65 From
Old-Time to New Country 2.00 News
Summany 2.01 The Kan Bruce Show 2.30
Health Matters 2.45 Free William Stones
1.00 News Summany 3.02 Resident of New
Lessons and Cards 4.30 A Host of Angels
5.00 News Summany 3.02 Resident of New
Lessons and Cards 4.30 A Host of Angels
5.00 News Summany 9.01 A Radio
Christmas al Diopley Delia 8.00 World News
8.25 World of Faith 8.30 Mendian 8.00
News Summany 8.01 Soorts Roundup 9.15
Classical Record Review 9.30 Alpine
Winter 10.00 Newshitzer 11.00 World News
11.09 Book Choles 11.15 A Radio
Christmas Card 12.00 Newshitzer 12.30
Festival of Nine Lessons and Cards 2.00
World News 2.00 News about Britain 3.15
From Our Own Corresponders 3.30
Letterbox 4.45 Morgarmagazin 5.45 648
News Headthes 5.35 Frencial Review
8.00 News Cards 6.30 Londres Matter

BBC1 #COTLAND: 2.10pm The Offshore Connection: The making of Fulmar at Christmas 3.10 The Arimate Holiday Roadshow 3.10 4.56 Film: Santa Calus — The Movie 6.08 Scotlish news and sport 8.10 Bob's Christmas Full House 8.56 Family Towars 6.25-7.30 The Spirit of Christmas (significances in Productions the mes (simultaneous broadcast with BBC Radio Scotland) 11_35 Watchnight Service 12.20um Film: The Searchers 2.15 Weathing. ors 2.15 Weather MonTriessen Inst-LAND: 11.35pm Watchinght Service 22.20um Film: The Searchers 2.15 Close

ANGLIA as London accept: 12.00 neon-tam Legend on ice — A True Gift of Cirrist-trass: with Flothin Causins 8.19-8.15 Anglis News, Sport 1.00 news. 240 Film: The Gift, the Gold Warth and Dynamits (Lie Purcell and Philip Machais) 8.00 The Great Santa Claus Caper 5.30-8.00 Christmes Comes to Paciand.

CENTRAL As London

Highway to Heaven: A Hight to Flamember 12.55pm-1.00 A Christmas Message: Canon Paul Obstreicher Padio S

6.55 Weather, followed by News Headines
7.00 Morning Concert: Weber
(Overture to Oberon:
Philharmonis under
Sawalisch); Fuck (Overture
to Miremare: Czech PO
under Vactav Neumann);
Bizet (Carmen ~ Suite No 1;
Diblegement under kneigh) Philhermonie under Kerajan)

7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (contd):
Mozart (Overture to the
Magic Flute: Cotumbia SO
under Bruno Wafter);
Dvorak (Two Cypresses:
Cleveland Cuarret); Vivaldi
(Concerto in F, RV 433: I
Musici with Aurele Nicolet,
flute); Liszt (The Battle of
the Huns: Lalpzig
Gewandhaus Orchestra
under Kurt Masur)
8.15 Christmas on 3: Preview of
the coming week's
programmes on Radio 3
presented by Tony Scotland
8.30 News

presented by Forty Scotains
2.30 News
2.35 Raphael Trio: Charles
Castleman (violin), Susan
Saim (cello) and Daniel
Epstein (plano) play
Beethover's Allegratio in B
flat (WoO 39); and Dvorak's
Trio No 3 in F minor Op 65

9.30 Record Releases: Anon (Worldes bits ne last no throwe: Sequentia); Anon (O Virgo splendens, Loor de Sante Maria, Polorum regina, and Maria matrem: Martin Best Ensemble); Michael Praetorius (Four Christmas Motets: Tavemer Consort, Choir and Players under Andrew Parrott): Viveldi (Flute Concerto in G. RV 438. Philharmonia RV 438. Philharmonia
Baroque Orchestra under
McGegan with Lanet See,
flute); Prokofiev (Sutte from
Lt Kije: RPO under
Handley); Gershwin (Blue
Monday: Labeque Sissers,
piano); and Gershwin
(Rhapsody in Blue — original
1924 version amanged by

1924 version arranged by François Jeanneau: Cincinnati Pops Orchestra under Kunzel with William Tritt. plan...)
11.30 Mozart: Hagen String 11.30 Mozart: Hegen String
Quartet with Isabelle van
Keuten (viota) play Quartet
in A (K 169); Quartet in G
minor (K 518); and Quartet
in D (K 575). Includes 12.25
interval reading
1.05 Third Ear. Robert Hewison
chairs a discussion on a
topical arts-related subject
fr)

1.30 Martin Roscos: The planist plays Schubert's Sonata in Finance (D 625); Allegretto in C minor (D 915); and

Sonata in C minor (D 958)

to Paciand.
HTV WEST as Leadon
Chatterbox Christman Parb; With
Aled Jones 12.30pm-1.00 America's
Top 10 8.00pm The Great Sarta
Caust Caper 5.30-8.00 Christman
Comes to Paciand.
HTV WALES As HTV West
assept No vari-

2.30 From the Festivals 1988: Recorded at the Edinburgh International Festival in

August. Scottish Opera Orchestra under John Mauceri with Scottish Opera Chorus under John Pryce-

Jones perform Strauss's Munchen; Schoenberg's Chamber Symphony No 2 Op 38; and the first

TSW As London except 12.00ecom America's

1.00pen UFO: Destruction 5.00ams Christmas Carbons 5.20-6.00 Christ-

Saturday 1.00 per The Nancy Drew Mysteries 1.46 Film: Biondie Goas Latin' 3.05 Film: Heart (John Wayne). A woman photographer joins a group of game hunters in Africa 5.45 News 5.00 The Angelus 6.01 Nine Days to Jerusalem with Donnota O Dutaing and Bill O'Herithy 6.30 The Night Before Christmas 6.36 Film: Christmas Eve (Lonsta Young and Time O'Herithy 6.45 Theorem 6.45 The Temple 10.45 Peveroti Returns to Naples 11.45 Masterworks 11.55 Midnight Mass: From Dublin 1.55eam Closedown. NETWORK 2 Starte: Krekston - East of Jeve 2-20 The Re-turn of Wonder Women 3-50 Jemes Stewart: A Wonderful Life 6.00 Silent Mouse 6.55 Nuncht 7.50 A Child's MOUSE CLES MEET 7.00 CANC IN Christmas In Weles 7.56 Fibr. The Man Who Knew Too Much (Lemes Stew-art, Dots Day) 10.00 Selent Night with Jose Carreras 10.35 Fibr. Falling In Love (Robert de Niro and Mery) Straep) 12.25 cm

Radio 4 LW (long wave) (s) Stereo on VHF 5.55 Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 The Farming Weak from Lancashire 6.50 Prayer for the Day 6.55 Weather 7.00 Today, incl 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.55, 8.58 Weather 9.00 News

9.05 Sport on 4: Cliff Morgan is Sport on 4: Citit Morgan presents today's sporting news as well as highlights of the past sporting year, including highlights from ourversations with Alistair Cooke, Spike Milligan and Benny Green Bræakway. The best and the worst of Chris Hawkesworth's holiday warenences: and some of

Marr, political editor of The

Nine Lessons and Carols.

by John le Carre. First of a

seven-part adaption by Rene Basiaco. Starring Bernard Hepton as George Smiley (1) (s) 12.55 Weather

1.00 News 1.10 Any Questions? Jonathan

Nine Lessons and Carols, tallong to chonsters, clergymen and composers who have participated in tes magical service (s)

12.25 Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy:

11.30 From Our Own

Op 38; and the first performence of the full score of Weill's Lady in the Dark, with Patricia Hodge, Richard, Griffiths, Forbes Masson, Mark Tinkier and Martin McEvoy 4.25 400 Years of Low Strings: Charles Curtis (cello) plays Hugo Becker's Welcraunen Tobies Hume's Touch Me 9.30 Br Lightly, and Captain Hume's Gastard; Silvestro Ganassi's Three Ricecars (Regala experiences; and some of his most thrilling moments, such as spotting a rare kestrel in Madagecar, and eating datfodils in the Lake District Rubertine); and Dallapiccola's Claccona intermezzo e adagio

10.00 Naws: Loose Ends: Ned Sherrin with Robert Elms, Craig Charles, Victoria Mather, Emma Freud and 5.00 Jazz Record Requests: With 5.48 Critics' Forum: Under review are Blake Edward's film Sunser; Jonathen Miller's Richard Jobson 11.00 News; A Year in Westminster: Jer Suriset; Jonatian Miner's production of Candide at the Old Vic; Radio 3's The Singular Case of Sherlock H and Sigmund F by Cecil Jenkins; The Complete Barry McKenzle by Barry Humphries and Nicholas Garlands and Charles Westministrations of the Naughtie takes a signt-hearted look at some of the year's political events with Robin Oakley, political editor of *The Times*, Peter Jenkins, associate editor of The Independent, Michael Ehott, political editor of The Economist and Andrew Garland; and *Charles* Dickens by Fred Kapian

6.35 Lengham Chamber
Orchestra: Charles Groves
conducts Mozart's
Symphony No 25 in G minor
(K 183): and Haydn's
Symphony No 31 in D (Horn
Signal) Correspondent
12.00 What Sweeter Music Brien
Kay traces the 70-year
history of the Festival of

7.30 La Cenerantoia Riccardo Chelity conducts the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra and State Opera Chorus in this year's Satzburg Festival's performance of Rossin's two-ect comedy, sung in Italian, With Ann Murray in Italian, With Ann Murray In the title role, and Walter Berry (bass), Angela Denning (soprano), Deptine Evangelatos (mezzo-soprano), Francisco Anaiza (tenor), Gino Quilico (bartone) and Wolfgeng Schone (hess).

operas by Mike and Kate Westbrook 12.00 News 12.06 Mass of Midnight: The first Mass of Christmas celebrated according to the Use of Sarum: Talks Scholars directed by Peter Philips. Ends 1.00em.

The state of the s

Schone (bess). 10.20 Westbrook Rossini: Charles

Fox introduces a selection of jazz and rock variations

2.00 News; The Best of Times -The Worst of Times: Last The Worst of Times: Last episode in the seven-part serial based on the fils of Charles Dickens. With Martin Jarvis (s) (f)

2.40 Treasure stands: Margaret Horsfield examines the role of greed in children's books (f)

3.00 News; A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols: Live from King's College Chapet, Cambridge (s)

4.30 The Food Programme examines feasting and hospitality in other countries; and Derek Cooper goes in search of

countines; and Derek
Cooper goes in seerch of
the clusive bear's pew (r)
5.00 Conversation Piece: Sue
MacGregor talks to bestselling author Mary Wesley,
whose first book was
accorded on her 70th

whose first book was accepted on her 70th brithday (r)
5.25 Week Ending: Satirical review of the week's news (r) 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 8.00 News, Incl Sports Round-Up 6.15 Christmas Wrapping: Children tafk about the presents they would like for presents they would like for Christmas, interwoven with Christmas memories, music

Christmas membrace, and poems and poems
6.35 Citizens: Crintibus edition (s)
7.20 Masterbrain: An invitation challenge match (s)
7.50 The Ambridge Chronicles
1914-1922: by Peter Mackie.
With Michael Maloney and Holly Aird (s)

9.20 The Natural History of the Gnoms: Peter France and contributors explore the world of this forest gnome 9.50 Ten to Ten A reading a hymn and a reflection from Canon Paul Oestreicher who prepares for the First Communion of Christin from Coventry 9.59

Thousand and One Nights at the Ballets Russes. With Edward de Souza as Colonel Vassity de Basil and Diana Oisson as Olga Morosova (s)
11.05 One Starry Night: A
Christmas meditation by Rosemany Hardia

11.30 First Communion of
Christmas from Coventry
Cathedral (simultaneous
broadcast with BBC1) (s)
12.33em Shipping Forecast
VHF as LW sxcept 1.55-

10.00 News 10.05 The Colonel's Dancers: A

Any Crestions? Jonathan Dembleby is joined in Jacobs Wall, Surrey, by the panellists John Wakeham MP, Leader of the Commons, Enoch Powell, John Prescott MP, and Shirley Williams (r) 1.55 Shapping Forecast FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/Z/5m;VHF-88-90.2. Radio 2: 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;VHF-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF-90-92.5. Radio 4: 199kHz/1515m;VHF-92-95. LBC: 1152kHz/261m;VHF-97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/154m,VHF95.8. Greater London Radio: 1458kHz/206n;VHF 94.9; World Service: MF648kHz/463m.

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CHRISTMAS DAY

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

BBC1

6.55 Now It's Christmas beginning with The Christmas Toy. (r). 7.45 The Christmas Recoons. A musical cartoon narrated by Rich Little with the singing voices of Rita Coolidge and Rupert Holmes

(f).
8.10 The Nativity Play. A simple version of the Christmas story 8.20 Playbus (f). 8.45 The Plak Parther Show (f).
9.10 Charlie's Christmas Project.
9.35 Umbrella Christmas Special with Mark Chatterton and Sugar Large 9.58 Wasther Susan Leong 9.58 Weather Christmas Worship from

SUSBIT LEURY state in transfer

10.00 Christmas Worship from
Paisley Abbey

11.00 Christmas Morning With Noel.
Includes Noel Edmonds
interviewing the Prime Minister
at No 10 Downing Street; personal
greetings from Neil Kinnock,
Paddy Ashdown and David Owen; and goodwill messages from President Reagan and Russian

rresident reagan and russian astronauts
12.05 it's a Charity Knockout introduced by Stuart Hall. Three teams representing Australia, Great Britain and the United States in a series of crazy games to raise money for Children in Need.
1.00 EastEnders. Omnibus edition (r). (Ceefax)
2.00 Top of the Pops Christmas Special introduced by Bruno

Special introduced by Bruno Brookes, Gary Davies and Anthea Turner (simultaneous broadcast with Flacio 1). 3.00 HM The Queen speaks to the

Commonwealth
3.10 Film: Back to the Future (1985)
starring Michael J. Fox,
Christopher Lloyd, Lee
Thompson and Crispin Glover. nompson and Crispin Glover.
Science fiction tale of a 1980s teenager who is transported back to the 1950s where he must arrange for his ill-matched parents to meet — or he will not be able to exist. Directed by Robert
Zemerkis who was also Zemeckis who was also responsible for one of this year's hits Who Framed Roger Rabbit. (Ceefax)

10.00 Film: Storm Boy (1976) starring
Greg Rowe, Peter Cummins and
David Gulpili. An awardwinning picture about a young
man living with his father on
the south Australian coast who

becomes friends with an

Aborigine of his own age. Directed by Henri Safran 11.25 Film: The Bible — in the Beginning (1966) starring Richard Harris, John Huston, Stephen

Creation up to the story of

islands (r). 3.00 Nelson Mandela 70th Birthday

Boyd and George C. Scott. That Book of Genesis version of the

Abraham and Isaac. Directed by John Huston 2.10 Islands of the Fire Goddess. A

The Natural World documentary about the volcanic Hawalian

Reison Mandela 70th Birthday
Concert, Highlights from the
concert held in June
celebrating the 70th birthday of
the South African antiapartheid leader, performed
before a crowd of 74,000 at
Wembley Stadium and mittions by

television all round the world (r).

ter Cummins and

BBC2

5.05 Only Fools and Horses. . . For once Del is in the money, with once Del is in the money, with enough for a surprise birthday party for granded and dates for himself and his brother. Rodney plumps for "nervous" Nerys while Del dates an actress but is economical with the truth about his background when he entertains her at the Server. Storping Devid Jeson

when he entertains her at the Savoy. Starring David Jason, Nicholas Lyndhurst and Buster Merryfield. (Ceetax)

6.25 News with Moira Stuart. Weather

6.30 A Christmax Celebration presented by Cliff Richard and Sally Magnusson. A Songs of Praise special. The guests include Roger Royle, John Wells, Wendy Craig, Pam Rhodes, the All Souls Orchestra and Choir and the Choir of St Philips. (Ceefax)

7.15 Bread. This Christmas edition of the comedy finds the resourceful family far away from their Liverpool home,

from their Liverpool home, holidaying in the Hotel Flaminio, Rome. (Ceefax) 8.30 The Russ Abbot Christman

Sage The Russ Abbot Christmes
Show. Comic sketches and music.
Among the guests are Les.
Dennis, Bernard Cribbins and
Belfa Emberg. (Ceefax)
9.10 News with Moira Stuart.
9.20 Film: Silwerade (1985) staming
Kevin Kline, Scott Glenn, Rosanna
Arquette and John Cleesse.
Western adventure about four
gummen who join forces to do
battle with a number of particularly
nasty pieces of work in the
town of Silverado. Directed by
Lawrence Kasdan
11.30 The Gospel According to St
Matthew told by Janet Suzman
11.40 Film: Caroused (1956) starring
Gordon MacRae and Shirley
Jones. A Rodgers and
Hammerstein musical about a
dead man who is given a day
on earth to sort out his wife's and
daughter's problems that have
accumulated since his death.

ad since his death. Directed by Henry King. 1.45 Weather.

8.20 HM The Queen talks to the Commonwealth. With subtitles and sign-language. (Cefax) 8.30 Once in a Lifetime. (Ceefax)

rein: The raining (1967)
starring Vittorio Gassman, Fanny
Ardant, Stefania Sandrelli and
Philippe Noiret. At the 80th
birthday celebrations in the flat
where he was born and has
always lived, Carlo recalls the

wars and revolutions that occurred outside and the

family dramas that took place inside. Directed by Ettore Scola. In Italian with English

subtitles.

12.20am Film: Some Like It Hot
(1959, b/w) starring Jack Lemmon,
Tony Curtis and Marilyn
Monroe. Comedy about two

BBC1 WALES: 6.30pm-7-15

MODER As Lendon except-12.00 mon Moderator's Christman Message 12.10 per-12.15 Carton Time 3.15 case Fam: In Like Plym (Jenny Seagrove) 8.00 8.00 Christman Carton's Scooty

CENTRAL As London
in Like Flynn (Jenny Seigrove) 5.006.00 Scootly Doo Goes Flollywood,

CHANNEL As London ex-

GRAMPIAN AsLondon ex-

eyewitnesses to the St Valentine's Day massacre who escape from the mob by

(see Choice) 10.15 Film: The Family (1987)

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am, introduced by Tommy
Boyd and Michaela Strachan,
begins with an RSPB film
about robins, narrated by Bernard
Cribbins. Other highlights
include carols from around the regions at 7.30 and an

regions at 7,30 and an animated version of the children's favourite *Black Beauty* at 8,30 Motormouth on Christman Day from Disneyfand includes the Disneyfand sind, at 10,05 Films. The Little Troll Prince (1967). A made-for-television animated musical set in Norway shout A made for television animates musical, set in Norway, about a troll who is a big disappoint to his parents Directed by Ray

11.00 Christmas Moming Worship
from St. John's Church, Lemsford,
Hertfordshire
16.00 Disney at Christmas, Mickey,
Donald and Goofy in Moving Day
12.15 The Great British Pop
Mischine presented by French and
Saumtary

Saunders.

1.15 Mr Majella starring Stanley
Baxter. The wizard comes to the
aid of Santa Claus who is aid of Santa Claus who is suffering from vertigo.

2-18 Bullseys Christmas Special presented by Jim Bowen and Marti Caine. This charity special pits Les Dennis, Roy Walker and Bob Holness against Jocky Wilson, Bob Anderson and Eric Bristow. Music is provided by Birmingham Cathedral Choir.

3-00 HM The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth

3-00 Christmas Blind Date. Cita Black introduces another selection

Black introduces another selection of lonely young men to similarly placed young ladies. (Oracle)

3.85 Film: The Empire Strikes Back

(Oracle)

Film: The Empire Strikes Back
(1980) starring Harrison Ford and
Mark Hamill. Part two of the
Star Wars trilogy and the Rebel Alliance, on the run from the galactic forces of the Empire led by Darth Vader, take shelter on a frozen planet. Directed by Irvin

6.05 Save the Children With Michael Crawford. A celebration of popular Christmas music, introduced by the Princess Royal in her capacity as President of the Save the Children Fund. The programme, which has film of Michael Crawford in Africa to inspect the work of the Fund, includes performances from, among others, David Essex, among others, David Essex,
Anita Harris, Julia McKenzie, Paul
Nicholas and Lon Satton.
7.18 Coronation Street Percy takes
charge of Christmas at Emily's;
but Deirdre's celebrations are

soured. (Oracle)

7.45 10 Years of Airight on the
Hight. Highlights from a decade of
out-takes that were intended. to stay on the cutting floor, presented by Denis Norden 8.45 London's Burning. (Oracle)

(see Choice)
10.18 News with Fions Armstrong
10.20 LWT Weather
10.25 One More Audience with
Dame Edos. The housewife superstar regales a celebrity audience with her thoughts on

things terring rai.

11.30 Film: The Liquidator (1965)
starring Rod Taylor, Trevor
Howard and Jill St John. A
former war hero is commissioned former war hero is commissioned by the secret service to eliminate all security risks. Directed by Jack Cardiff was Films Our Man Films (1966) starring James Coburn. Polymath and martial arts expert Derek Films is the only man who can save the earth from a sinister

organization that wants to take over the world by controlling its climate. Directed by Daniel

Mann
3.15 Film: Robbers of the Secred
Mountain (1983) starring Simon
MacCorkindale. A reporter on
an assignment in Mexico becomes
involved in a mission to
acquire 10 precious stones.
Directed by Robert Schultz.
\$.00 Dave Dee and Friends'
Christmas Beat Club. Ends \$.00

CHANNEL 4

9.30 Christopher's Christmas Mission (r). 10.00 Silent Mouse. The story of how the carol Silent Night came

how the carol Swent Night came into being.

11.00 The Waltons. 12.00 Treasure Hunt in Florida (r).

1.00 Lest in Space. Episode 12

2.00 Film: Show People (1928, b/w) starring Marion Davies. A silent classic satirizing Hollywood life. Directed by King Vidor

3.30 Mozart Mass in C Minor from Vienna's Grosser

Musikverainsaal performed by the Vienna State Opera Choir

by the Vienna State Opera Choic accompanied by the Vienna

Concentus Musicus

4.40 John Wells and the Three

Wise Men. John Wells discusses
the birth of Christ with Rabbi

Lionel Situe, Suresh Joshi and Ms Lella Badawi 5.20 HM The Queen speaks to the

Commonwealth 5.30 Film: The Snowmen (1982). An award-winning, made-for-television film about a little boy who is taken on a trip around the heavens by a snowman. Directed by Diane Jackson

6.00 Faerie Tale Theatre:
Pinocchio, starring Paul Reubens
as the wooden puppet who
evolves into a human. (Oracle) 7.00 News summary and weather

7.40 News summ ary and weather followed by Time is a Country. A portrait of Margaret Gardiner who has played a leading role in the evolution of 20th-century culture in Britain

8.20 Challenge by Fire — Restoring the Glory of York Minster. The story of the restoration of York Minster's South Transept roof and vault. (Oracle)

6.00 Creole Giselle. The ballet Giselle transposed from the Fibine Valley to Louisiana and performed by the Dance Theatre

performed by the Dance Theatre of Harlem 10.49 Jean-Michel Jarre: Destination Docklands. Highlights

from the composer's extravaganza in London's Victoria Docks 11.45 Human Rights Now! A concert

recorded in Buenos Aires to mark Human Rights Day. Among those taking part are Bruce Springsteen, Sting and Peter Gabriel. Ends at 2.40em TVS As London except 5.00cm

TYNE TEES As Leader
Films in Like Physic Genry Seegrove).
Author becomes involved in only design
on the Caribbean 8.00-8.00 Scooby ULSTER As Leadon

Like Flynn (Jeriny Saggrove) 8.006.00 Christmas Cartoon: Scooby Goes

YORKSHIRE As Landon ex-cepts.09-6.09. Christmes Cartoon: Scootry Goes Hollywood.

S4C Starte: 8.1 Seus Hefoc 18.00 A Child's Christmas in Wales 11.00 The Waltons 12.00 Trustees in Wales
11.00 The Waltons 12.00 Trusteste
Hunt Speciel 1.00pm Film: The Little
Match Girl 2.00 Girlstress Star 3.00
The Queen 3.15 Syras Moscow 4.05
Film: Joni Jones - Y Film 5.55
Cented Curted 6.25 Newyddion 6.35
Pobol Y Cwin 7.00 Hen Win Yr Wyl
7.50 Minston 6.50 Dechrau Canu,
Dechrau Caranol 9.30 Film: Liwins
gan Fitydderch Jones 19.45 Nid Ose Neb
Wed Gweld Duw Eriod 19.30 John
Walls and the Three Was Men 11.50 Human Fights Now Concert 2.60ese
Closedown.

RTE 1 Starts: 8.25 am Service 10.55 Lith at Orbi 11.30 Station the Seas 11.45 Ciristmas in Peris 12.45 per Seas 11.55 Firm: Star Trek III — The Search for Spock 3.40 The Paul Daniels Magic Ciristmas Show 4.25 The Carvaraughs 4.50 Ciristmas Measages 8.00 Dempely's Daniel Stata Land 5.25 Firm: Sack to the Future (Liefchael J Fox) 7.20 News 7.30 Play the Gerne 8.00 The Non-Stop Ciristmas Show 10.00 Firm White Nights 12.10 and 1.00 News 1.00 Ciristmas 1.00 Ciristmas 1.00 News 1.00 Ciristmas 1.00 Ciristmas

NETWORK 2 Starts: sey's Derr. Film: The Great Mospet Caper 8-15 Bosco 8-30 The Christmas Toy 18-80 The Snowman 11-25 The Stabishoy's Christmas 11-56 Bugs Bunny's Loony Christmas Gale 12-36 The Steedhast Tin Soldier 12-30pen Michey's Christmas Carol 1-20 Carolis by Candielight 1-80 Cinderelia: A ballet set to music by Protoilev. Adaptation and choreography by Rudolph Nurseyev 4-36 Jo-Mau 5-30 Top of the Pops 5-55 Nuccht 4-36 kis na Nollag 6-25 Coronation Street Special 6-30 The Christmas Wife 8-10 Film: Emeratel Forest 15-36 Drame: When We Are Nearfied

dressing as women and joining a femala band going on tour to Florida. With George Raft, Pat O'Brien and Joe E. Brown. Directed by Billy Wilder. (Ceefax) Ends at 2.20.

ANGLIA As London so-copt 11.30-1.20em First-High Phains Oriter. Clint Eastwood stains as the mysterious stranger who signs on as the sheriff of a Western town 2-15 First. In Like Flynn. (Janny Seegrow). Thatfer writer gets in-volved in a real live mystery 5.00-6.00 Scooly Doc Goos Hollywood. HTV WALES ASHTY West

SCOTTISH As Landon except 12.00-12.15pm
The Moderator's Christinas Message. The Right Rev Protescor James
White 11.30-1.20em Film: From
Noon 20 Three. A barn's tobber becomes a
local legend 3.16 Film: In Like Flynn
(Jenny Seagrove, William Convact 8.008.00 Scooby Goes Hollywood.
TSW As Loadon except 3.18 mm
Seagrove) 3.00-8.00 Scooby Goes
Hollywood.

VARIATIONS

GRANADA As London except 3.15 cm Filtr In Like Flynn (Jenny Seegrove) 5.00-6.00 Christmas Carloot: Scoolly Goes

HTV WEST As Leader
1.20pm-first The Squeeze. Succy
1.20pm-first The Squeeze. Succy
Keach, Freddie Start. The divorced wife
and deughter of an alcoholic expolice impecter, are licinapped 3.15
first in Like Flynn (Jenny Seagrove)
5.00-6.00 Scooby Goes Hollywood.

VIIF stereo and MW (medium

wave). **6.00** Liz 'n' Mark, inci **9.00** The 6.00 Liz 'n' Mark, incl 9.00 The Cuesn talding to the Cuesn talding to the Commonwealth 10.06 Christmas Day in The Gulf, incl 11.00 The Cuesn speaks to the Commonwealth 2.00 Top of the Pops (simultaneous broadcast with BBC1) 3.00 Read And Wright's Christmas Dinner 6.00 Top 30 Albums of 1988 with Roger Scott 7.00 The Anne Nightingale Request Show 9.00-2.00asn The Grotto Blaster.

\$45 field(6,2,2,2)

VMF stereo (except 6.00pm-7.00pm) and MW (medium wave)
4.00 Dave Bussey 6.00
Graham Knight 8.00 Roger Royle
10.00 The Cueen speaks to
the Commonwealth 10.10 When
Housewives Stuffed The Bird
1.00 Desmond Carrington 1.00
Pull The Other Cracker 1.20
The Goon Show 2.00 Jersey Gala
Children's Concert 3.00 John
Dunn 8.00 Charlie Chester 7.00
Take It From Here 7.30 Klever
Kaffi 8.30 Sunday Half-Hour 9.00
Christmas At Althorp 10.00
Christmas Tapestry 11.00 National
Youth Jazz Orchestra
12.05em Alan Dediccet presents
Nightride 3.00-4.00 A Little Nightride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music.

WORLD SERVICE

Altimes in GMT.
7.00 World News 7.00 Twenty-four Hours
7.30 From Our Own Correspondent 7.45
Book Choice 7.50 Waysguide 8.00 World
News 8.09 Words of Fight 8.15 The
Pleasure's Yours 8.00 World News 9.09
Christines Reading 9.15 Nature New 9.30
The Queen 9.25 Festival of Nine Lessons
and Carols 11.00 World News 11.09 News
about Britain 11.15 From Our Own
Correspondent 11.30 Londres Midl 12.00
News Summary 12.21 Pay of the WeelcChristines at Dingley Dell 1.00 World News
1.05 Twenty-four Hours 1.30 Kevin and
Amile's Christines Reunion 1.45
Worldbrief 2.00 News Summary 2.31 Whit
Good Reason 2.20 Anything Goes 3.00
The Queen 3.05 World News
4.09 News about Britain 4.15 Moonarits
4.65 Letter from America 5.00 World News
4.09 News about Britain 4.15 Moonarits
4.65 Letter from America 5.00 World News
4.65 Letter from America 5.00 World News 4.46 Letter from America 5.00 World News 5.09 Book Choice 5.15 English by Radio 5.45 Londres Soir 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 5.45 Londres Soir 6.30 Heuris Aktuell 7.00 Programmes in German 8.00 World News 8.05 Worldorfeld 8.25 Words of Pailth 8.30 Measterbrish 8.00 News Suramary 9.01 Kevin and Arnie's Christmas Reunion 8.15 The Piessure's Yours 10.00 Newshout 11.00 World News 11.15 Letter from America 11.30 With Good Reason 12.00 News Suramary 1.31 Desert Island Diess, and Christmes Reading 1.45 Merio Lanza. 2.00 World News 2.39 Christmes Reading 2.15 Andy Kershaw's World of Music 2.20 Science in Action 3.00 World News 2.03 Christmes Reading 2.15 Andy Kershaw's World of Music 2.20 Science in Action 3.00 World News 3.03 News 80out British 3.15 Good Books 3.30 Anything Goos 4.00 Newscieck 4.30 Letter from America 4.45 Morgenmagazin 5.45 D48 News Headinas 5.55 The Week on 648 6.00 Newscieck 6.30 Landres Media

C.55 Weather and News Clarinel Concerto in A with the Academy of St Martinin-the-Fields under Martiner Concerto in A with the Academy of St Martinin-the-Fields under Martiner Constant State of Martiner Constant State of St Cantatas states with a reading from Martin Luther's Christmas sermons. Jauchizet,

Luther's Christmas sermons. Jauchzet, frohlocket, auf preiset die Tage: English Beroque Soloists and Monteverdi Choir under John Ellot Gardiner, with Ruth Holton (soprano), Nency Argenta (soprano), Anne Sofie von Otter (mezzo-soprano), Anthony Rolfe-Johnson (tenor), Hans-Peter Blochwitz (tenor), and Olaf

(tanor), Hans-Peter
Blochwitz (tenor), and Olaf
Bar (barhore)
8.06 A Christmes Crecker:
Wagner (Siegfried klyft:
Amsterdem Concertgebouw
under Haltink; and Delius
(Skeigh Ride: RPO under
Beecham)
8.30 News

8.36 News
8.35 Your Christmas Concert
Choice: Pascha (Christmas
Mass in F: Musica
Mass in F: Musica nica under Kreeki: Schoenberg (Christmas Music: London Statonie under Atherton); Saboly (Li plus sage: La Maitrise Sabriel Faure); Bach (Shepherds Song — Christmas Oratorio: Leopold Stokowald SO); Vaughan Williams (Hodie: LSO under Williams)

16.30 Music Weekly: An examination of the music inspired by Wenceslas; an interview with harpist Nicenor Zabaleta; a review Nicerior Zabateta; a review of The Tailor of Gloucester at Sadier's Wells, London; and a discussion between Douglas Young and Jerenny James Taylor about the National Youth Music Theatre's production The Rise and Fall of the

Rise and Fait of the
Programme Note

11.18 BBC Phithamnonic
Orchestra in Frankfurt:
Edward Downes conducts
Mczart's Overture to The
Marriage of Figano;
Prokofiev's Yloën Concerto
No 2 in G minor; and
Tchaficovery's Suite No 3 in
G. With Dmitry Sitiovetsky
(violin), includes 11.65 the
conductor talks about
orchestral touring
55 Mozart and Mosart conductor touring orchestral touring 12.55 Mozert and Mendelsschru Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields Chamber Ensemble play Mozert's Serenade in G (Eine kleine Nachtmusik); and Mendelsmin's Ortet is S

coint's Octet in E

1.55 A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (r)
2.25 Schumann and Mozart: Schumann (Introduction and Allegro appassionate Op 92; Saar RSO under Letter with Dazsa Randi planot Saar RSO under Leitner with Dezso Rankt, pieno); Mozart (Rondo in D: Saar RSO under Leitner); Mozart (Adegio in E: Wurtsemberg CO under Faerber with Prank Peter Zimmermann, violin); Mozart (Rondo in A: ECO with Murray Perania, pieno); Schumenn (Overture, Scherzo and Finsle Op S2: Stuttgert RSO under Marriver)

Finale Op 52: Stuttgert HSO under Marrhert)

4.25 Ensemble Wien-Berikn:
Dentzi's Wind Quintet in G minor Op 56 No 2; Ligeti's Six Begatelles; plus virtuoso arrangements for wind quintet of music by Mendelesoho, Rimsky-Korsakov and members of the Strauss family

Korsakov and mambers of the Strauss termity Pischer-Dieskau in London: The German baritone with Hartmut Holl (piano) in a recital programme of Goethe settings by Schubert The Pigrim's Progress: by John Bunyan, Starring John Gleigud as Christian, Timothy West as Bunyan, Richard Bebb as Feithia, Martin, Jarvis as Hoosful. John Justin as the Evengelist, Norman Shelley as Mr Worldly Wiseman and Trevor Martin as Apollyon/Giant Despair. With music by Vaughan Wittems performed by the BBC Northern SO under

SBC Norman SO under Charles Groves, with Delyth Jones (soprand), Elsa Kendal (contraind), Robin Leggata (tonor) and Christopher Underwood (baratone) (r) 8.05 A Mozzart Concerto: Berlin O under Berselving frince) PO under Barenborn (piano) ptay Serenade in D, K 239

ptay Serenade in D, K 239
(Serenata notturna); Plano
Concerto No 20 in D minor,
K 466; and Symphony No
41 in C, K 551 (Aupiter)

8.39 On a Winter's Evening:
Gwen Firangoon-Davise
presents a selection of her
favourite poetry

9.39 Britannia Triumphans:
Parley of instruments
directed by Peter Holman
and Mark Caudia, with Paul
O'Dette (total) play a O'Dette (lute) play a selection of consort dences 10.29 Compass Points: First of

10.29 Compass Points: First of four excursions in poetry and prose travels north 10.39 Choral Evensong: Recorder in St Paul's Cathedral 11.39 Brahms at Beddime: String Quintst No 1 in F Op 88: Members of the Berlin Philhemonic Ocist. 12.09 News 12.05 Engs.

Tales from tinsel town

TELEVISION CHOICE

• Those looking for a witty and fast-moving entertainment with more spice to it than much of the Christmas evening fare can do oo bener than time in to Once in a Lifetime (BBC2, 8.30pm). Moss Hart's and George S. Kaufman's satire on the arrival of the talkies in Hollywood, a noo-musical companion piece to Singin' in the Rain, goes back more than half a century but it remains a furiously accurate picture of a nervous and chaotic industry. Singin' in the Rain dealt mainly with the problem of silent actresses with dreadful voices having to come to terms with sound. Once in a Lifetime touches on this as well, while hitting several other targets along the way, not least Hollywood's sudden mania for signing up play-wrights and then giving them plush offices and nothing to do. It is one of those American comedies in which people talk at 500 words a minute and deliver wisecracks by the buckerload. Robin Midgley's production has the required pace and in the main the actors serve him splendidly, though in some cases the caricatures are too broad and subtlety is lost. This is not a criticism which applies to Zoe Wanamaker, Niall Buggy and Kristoffer Tabori as the small-



Kristoffer Tabori and Zoe Wanamaker star as two vandeville players seeking their fortune in Hollywood (BBC2, 8.30pm)

time vandeville trio down to • The big attraction on ITV their last few dollars who head this evening, leaving aside yet for Hollywood in search of a another airing of Denis fortune; nor to David Suchet Norden's anthology of moas the studio mogul with huge ments television personalities cigar and Central European would rather forget, is accent who employs them to London's Burning (8.45pm), a teach elocution and voice 90-minute "special" about the culture to his budding stars, boys and girls of Blackwall fire The stage origins of the piece station. It is an interesting are not entirely disguised and choice and perhaps a surprisyou can almost see the curtain ing one. London's Burning coming down between acts. began as a creditable attempt But for most of the time sheer by the reliable Jack Rosenthal to make a Hill Street Blues out

of the London fire brigade. It was then spun off into a disappointing series. In this oew episode, written by Tony Hoare (who, busy man, is also responsible for tomorrow's Minder), professional and personal problems intermingle and overlap as the station faces the approach to Christmas. Haokies at the ready for a sub-plot about a handicapped foster child,

Peter Waymark

A Christmas cracker

RADIO CHOICE

"Did you put the cat out?" "No, it wasn't on fire." "Have you ever seen a comic strip?" Only in a steam bath - and it was ghastly!" No, not Christworst thing: off-colour quotes from The Goon Show (Radio 2, 1.30pm). Happily, recuperation is swift. In any case, you won't have heard any of it before, for this is the Peter Sellers, who wins the Christmas 1956 edition that, op to now, has been heard only outside the United Kingdom. In this spoof panto,

vaguely to do with Robin Hood, the biggest cheer is rightly reserved for Peter Seller's Bluebottle ("No. don't tie me to a stakel I'm a vegetarian!").

 Yoo should also take time off from all that nut-cracking and televisioo worship to



biggest cheer (R2, 1.30pm)

portrait of the composer/ conductor, marred only by unhelpful comments like "he was always searching for the perfect sound", which seems more appropriate to The Glenn Miller Story. There is a special bonus: piano record-ings made by Mahler himself in 1905. You woo't have heard them before.

listen to The Real Mahler The icing on the Radio 3 (Radio 4, 2.00pm), Norman cake tonight is the re-broad-Lebrecht's intensely human cast of the 1977 production of

adaptation of The Pilgrim's Progress (6.30pm). This was the one with Gielgud at his (Radio 3, 1.55pm).

Day 1958 recording of Take It From Here (Radio 2, 7.00pm); Bob Sinfield's 45-minute tribute to Hoffnung (Radio 4. 6.15pm) which could have run to twice that length without a word of protest from me: and the repeat of Ayckbourn's Relatively Speaking (Radio 4, 7.45pm) - a showcase, if ever there was one, for the radio artistry of Michael Aldridge and Rosemary Leach.

Peter Davalle

LW (long wave) (s) Stereo on VHF 5.55 Shipping Forecast 6.00 News; Prelude: A sequence

8.00 News; Prelude: A sequence of seasonal music (s)

9.30 On Circistras Day in the Morning presented by John Timpson with Rosemary Hartil, Frank Muir, Sarah Ryan, music from the Fine Arts Brass Ensemble and surprise guests (s) incl 7.00, 8.00 News 6.55, 7.25, 8.55 weather

9.00 News
9.05 Christmas Tingle: John
Julius Norwich with words
and music that send a tingle
down his spine (s)
The Queen speaks to the

9.39 The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth (s)
9.35 Morning Service: Family from the Church of St Edward the Confessor, Macclestield 10.30 The Archers, Omnibus

10.30 The Archers, Omnibus edition (r)
11.30 Radio Fun at Christmas: Russell Davies with a selection of thoughts about Christmas by radio's comedians, including Tommy Handley, the Lyons Family, Joyce Granfell and the Goons (s)
12.25 Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy: by John le Carré, Second of a seven-part dramatization by René Basilico. With John Bennett as Mendel and Ann Lynn as Mrs Pope-Grahem

Lynn as Mrs Pope Graham
(s) (r) 12.55 Weether

1.00 The Queen speaks to the
Commonwealth (s) (r) Commonwealth (s) (r)
1.05 News
1.10 With Great Pleasure: Alan Bennett and Phyllida Law with a selection of poetry

with a selection of postry and prose that includes Festiting Cows by Norman McCaig, an extract from Leonard Woolf's autobiography, Not Waving but Drowning by Stavia Smith and Goodbye to the Vitage Pirarius by Francis Hone in 4. Ms Shinning Hope (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 The Real Mahler: Norman Lebrecht profiles the life and music of Gustav Mahler

and music of Gustav Marier
with the help of recorded
reminiscences by some of
his closest contemporaries
including his wifs, Aima, his
plays and his conductors (s)
3.00 News; Torn Jones: by Henty
Fielding, adapted by Hallem
Tempson. A tale of
treachery and
misunderstanding with misunderstanding with Anton Lesser as the beleaguered hero, Martin



Alan Bennett selects some favourite poetry (R4, 1.10pm)

4.00 The Strange Case of Edgar Alian Poe: A tale of mystery and imagination by Christopher Cook, Detective

Auguste Dupin, one of Poe's own creations, investigates the bizarre life and strange death of the writer. With Kerry Shale as Edgar Allan Poe (s) 5.00 Down Your Way at Christmas visits Salisbury Cathedral 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

Chariotta Green 6.05 Ciwiştmas Week on 4:



Superman fights Lex Luther in the courts (R4, 10.05pm)

mellifluous best as Christian, and with the music Vaughan Williams wrote for the onginal 1943 radio production. And, if you missed A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on want to miss it again today For comedy, nothing will quite measure up to The Goon Show, but I can, I think, safely recommend the Christmas

Jarvis, Kethryn Huributt, Peter Jeffrey, Clifford Rose, Squire Allworthy, Annette Crosbie, and Hannah Gordon (1 of 6) (s) (r)

6.00 News: Presented by Preview of the programmes



on Radio 4 during the coming week
6.15 Hoffnung: Documentary
celebration in words and music of Gerard Hoffne Sinfield with the aid of Annetta Hoffmung, Joseph Horovitz, John Dankworth and Harry Enfield (s)

News; Playing from the Heart: Feature tracing the musical connection through one family from Grandfathe! one family from Grandfether Goossens who came from Bruges in 1873 and became conductor of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, to Marie Goossens's great-grandson, aged 12, who is a budding planist (s) Comedy at Christmas: The first of a series of five classic comedies is Relatively Speaking by Alan Awckhourn. Confusions and

Ayckbourn. Confusions and misunderstanding abound when Girmy tries to discard her dublous past before she gets married. With Michael Aldridge, Rosemany Leach, Joanna Walke and Nigel Lambert (s) (r) Lambert (s) (r)

9.15 Penguins and Pium
Puddings: Barry Paine examines how naturalists. explorers and adventurers have spent some of their

Christmas days. Many refuse to let the restivities intrude on their work, including David Bellamy who nearly became a shark's Christmas tunch 9.39 Weather 10.00 News 10.05 Superman on Trial: Dramedocumentary celebrating 50 years of Superman and his world. The last son of

Krypton is accused of crimes against humanity Lex Luthor, the criminal genius, is the prosecutor and only Lois Lane can end our hero. With Stuart Milligan, William Hootkins and Shelley Thompson 10.50 (s) (r) 10.50 Concerto: James Galway

talks to June Knox-Mawer about his life in Belfast and

11-35 Seeds of Faith: Words and music for Christmas night with Dr John Habgood, Archbishop of York (5)



(s) (r)

12.00 News, incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast Viter as LW except: 1.55-2.00pm Programme News

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;VHF-88-90.2. Radio 2: 893kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; VHF-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF-90-92.5. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; VHF-92-96. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF95.8. Greater London Radio: 1458kHz/208m; VHF 94.9; World Service: MF648kHz/468m.

12.15gm The Moderator a Christmas Message: The Right Rev Professor James Whyte 3.15ess Fatt: In Like Flynn (Jenny Sesgrove) Writer becomes involves in a myster in Jurial 8.50-8.00 Christmas Ci Dance Theatre of Harlem in Creole Giselle (C4, 9.00pm) FOR YOUR FURTHER VIEWING PLEASURE



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7-00 Now It's Christmas starting with The Muppet Babies (r).
7-20 Champion the Wonder Horse (b/w) in Salted Ground (r).
7-45 Film: Dot and the Kangaroo (1977). An animated tim about a

(1977). An animated film about a young girl lost in the Australian bush. A rightfall she is befriended by an amiable kangaroo 9,00 Playbus 9,25 Bugs Bunny's Loonie Christmas Tale (r). 9,55 Smash Hit Poll Winners' Party presented by Phillip Schofield from London's Royal Albert Hall (r). 10,55 Five to Eleven. Frank Thornton with a reading 11.00 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. Alias St Nick, Hay Rube; and The Pup's Christmas

Pup's Christmas 11.25 Film: The Black Stallion Print: Ine Black Stallion
Returns (1983) starring Kelly
Reno, Teri Garr and Vincent
Spano. The story of a young
man's efforts to trace a
kidnapped racehorse. Directed by
Robert Dalva. (Ceefax)
i News with Laurie Mayer.
Weather.

1.10 The World's Strongest Man.
The contest for the Daf Trucks Trophy introduced by Chris Serie from Budapest and Tihany,

Hungary Film: Escape to Athena (1979) staming Roger Moore, Telly Savalas and David Niven. Second World War drama about a Second World War drama about a group of Altied soldiers planning to escape from a prisoner-of-war camp on a German-occupied Greek island, With Claudia Cardinale, Stefania Powers, Richard Roundtree, Elliott Gould and Anthony Valentine. Directed by George P. Cosmatos. (Ceefex) Disney Time introduced by David Essex. Including clips from Snow White, Cinderella,

Snow White, Cinderella,
Sleeping Beauty, Fantasia and
101 Dalmatians
4.50 Final Score. Sports results
presented by Harry Gration
5.05 News with Laurie Mayer.
Weather

year-old who accompanies Kirl Ta Kanawa on the harp; and a 14-year-old who has lunch with her

pop idol Gienn Medeiros at his home on an Hawailan island. (Ceetax)
6.00 A Question of Sport presented by Devid Coleman. In this seasonal edition Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham are joined by Bernard Manning, Tim Rice, Frank Carson and Gilly Coman.

(Ceetax)
6.30 The Paul Daniels Magic
Christmas Show. The guests are Brothers, and the Puppeteers 7.20 CivryStreet. An EastEnders

special with the Albert Square gang transported back to the Christmas of 1942 and the

5.20 Jim'll Fix It. Among those for

whom Jimmy Savile makes dreams come true are a 13-

deprivations associated with wartime. (Ceefex) 8.20 Film: Beverly Hills Cop (1984) starring Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinhold, Lisa Elibecher and Staven Berkoff, Comedy drama about an unorthodox Detroit policeman whose off-beat methods are not appreciated when he travels to California on the trail of the killer of his friend of his fined. riend. Directed by Martin Brest.

(Ceefax)
10.05 The Lenny Henry Special.
Comedy sketches and music, the latter supplied by Mica Paris. (Ceefax) 10.45 News with Laurie Mayer.

10.45 News with Laurie Mayer.
Regional news and weather
10.55 Bruce and Ronale in the
Corbett and Forsyth Show. With
guest Fiona Fullerton
11.40 Film: Fiddler on the Roof
(1971) starring Topol, Norma
Crane, Leonard Frey and Paul
Michael Glaser. The musical story
of a poor milliman who is
determined to find rich husbands
for his five daughters. Directed
by Norman Jewison. (Ceefax)
2.35em Weather.

0.00 News and sports results 5.15 Film: Octopussy continued

ITV/LONDON

S.00 TV-am begins with Boxing Day
Sport presented by Geoff Claric,
7.30 Wideaweke Special
9.25 The Sooty Christmas Show
with Matthew Corbett, Roger
Walker and Suzy Aitchison
9.50 Film: Mickey's Christmas
Carol (1983), Certoon version of
Charles Dickens's novel.
Directed by Burny Mattinson
10.20 Film: Dayy Cooclett and the

10.20 Filer: Davy Crockett and the River Pilots (1956) starring Fess Perker and Buddy Ebsen. The "King of the Wild Frontier" persuades a former rivel to help him tackle a gang of river pirates. Directed by Norman

12.00 What's My Line? Christman Special presented by Angela Rippon.

12.30 News with Flone Armstrong
12.35 Piers The See Wolves (1987)
starring Gregory Peck and Roger
Moore. Second World War
drama about a group of Allied
veterans who are brought out
of retirement to perform what will
he an amachrowid red.

of retirement to perform what will be an unacknowledged mission to destroy an enemy spy ship. Directed by Andrew V. McLagien 2.40 Wish You Were Here. .? Judith Chalmers takes an energetic holiday in Alberta, goes on an African bird-watching safari and tests the claims of the Yorkshire Tourist Board; Ameka Rice joins a gournet cookery course; and John Carter reports from a country cookery course; and John Carter reports from a country "somewhere in Europe", takes a television studio tour, and travels down the Mississippi by paddle-steamer. (Oracle)

3.40 Filtr: Octopussy (1983) starring Roger Moore, Maudi James and Louis Jordan.

James Bond is summoord by "Mi"

James Bond is summond by "M" when 009 is found murdered in when 009 is found murdered in East Germany clutching what looks like a Faberge egg. Directed by John Gien. Continues at 5.15.

6.15 Strike it Lucky. Game show

7.00 The Krypton Factor Grand Final. (Oracle) 7.30 Coronation Street. Audrey is hard pressed to keep All's embarrassing secret quest

(Oracle) 8.00 Minder. This 90-minute special finds Arthur in the big time — he has his own warehouse, is doing a good international trade in counterfeit goods and has a big order from a war games enthusiast. Terry meanwhile gets a new job; and Chisholm, now in security, is accompanying a consignment of gold. (Oracle)

9.30 After Henry. Consedy starring Prunella Scales as a widow trying to cope with an obtrusive finds Arthur in the big time — he

Prunella Scales as a widow trying to cope with an obtrusive mother and a recalcitrant daughter 10.00 News with Flona Armstrong 10.15 Filter Blackout (1965) starring Richard Widmark and Keith Carradine. Thriller about an expolicemen obsessed with tracking down the person responsible for an unsolved murrier. Directed

down the person responsible for an unsolved munder. Directed by Douglas Hickox

Bercelons — a tilusion!
Extravaganza. A concert including duets by Montaerrat Caballe and Freddie Mercury; and Jose Carreras with Diconne Warwick; dance from Rudolph Nureyev; and rock and roli by Jerry Lee

rock and roll by Jerry Lee

rock and roll by Jerry Lee
Lewis
Lew

Edwards
3.18 WKRP in Cincinneti. Comedy
3.45 Film: Whistling in Dtde (1942,
b/w) starring Ried Skelton.
Comedy about the hero of a
radio detective series who wants a
two-week breek in order to get
married. Directed by S. Sylvan
Simon

5.00 ITN Homing News. Ends 6.00.

 Ostensibly a documentary about Kenneth Branagh and the Renaissance Theatre Company he founded with David Parfitt, Caught in the Act (Channel 4, 7.00pm) veers off interestingly into a wider consideration of actor-managers and actor-directors. Branagh has become a hit of both, learning how to grapple with VAT forms and directing a sparking production of Twelfth Night, which Channel 4 is showing on Friday. Branagh mentions Sir Donald Wolfit at one stage but only to point out the contrast between a company dominated by one man and the Renaissance exercise in theatrical democracy. There is also an implicit criticism of big ensembles like the RSC and the National, where the actors have little say in the productions but tend to

TELEVISION

CHOICE

takes the flak. Apart from promoting actor involvement, one of the main Branagh-Parfitt initiatives has been choosing actors - Judi Dench, Geraldine McEwan and Derek Jacobi - to direct. All three are shown at work; all three say they have learned from the experience. For their part, the Renaissance actors say they can respect people who have been through it themselves. But Terry Hands of the RSC is sceptical, maintaining that the best collaboration is between "pure" directors and "pure" actors. Perhaps, as head of what is often seen as a directors' company, he would say that. Mary Gwatkin has made an enjoyable and enlightening film which has the merit of letting the subject emerge by itself, unmediated by anchor man or commentary. There have been few better arts documentaries this

David Parlitt (left) with Kenneth Branagh, who founded the Renaissance Theatre Company last year, provide a behind-the-scenes look at theatrical democracy at work (C4, 7.00pm)

The Renaissance men

wrong. In Renaissance everyone has a say, and everyone Reader's Digest as the sort of Reader's Digest as the sort of publication that would con-dense War and Peace ioto three pages and pass it off as literature but News From Pleasautville (BBC2, 9.55pm) pays the compliment of taking seriously the world's most read magazine with 100 mil-lion readers in 197 countries. The peg for the film is the 50th anniversary of the Digest in Britain, an occasion marked by congratulations from the Queen downwards (though it is not revealed whether she is a reader). A product of the Bookmark stable, the film is most interesting on the Digest's ideology, promoting the virtues of pulling yourself up by your bootstraps long before Mrs Thatcher turned it ioto a political creed. And the magnzine's xenophobic Russiabashing has even led it to be branded as an arm of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Peter Waymark

CHANNEL 4

9.30 Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series. The guest is Victor Borge
10.30 Race Against the Wind. This first of a repeated series of Assignment Adventure documentaries follows the

documentation to toward a re-fortunes of six young people as they sail from Prince Rupert in Alaska to Vancouver 11.30 Street Hockey. The first of a new series on the fast-growing

sport 12.00 Stone Monkey. A portrait of 12.00 Stone Monkey. A portrait of rock climber Johnny Dawes (r).
12.30 Channel 4 Racing from Kempton Park, Brough Scott introduces coverage of the 12.45, 1.15, 1.45, 2.20 (King George VI Rank Chase) and 2.50 races
3.18 Anne of Green Gables starring Megan Follows. The story of a young orphan who goes to live with a Canadian farmer and his spinster sister at the turn-of-the-century (r).

the-century (r).

5.05 Cricket — The Women's World
Cup Final, Highlights of the game
in Melbourne between
Australia and England

6.00 Facrie Tale Theatre:
Rapunzel, starring Shelley Duvall and Jeff Bridges. (Oracle)
7.00 News summary and weather followed by Campitt in the Act. (see Choice)
8.00 Cheers. Comedy series set in a Boston bar. (Oracle)
8.30 Brookside. Paul confronts Brian and Anna about their affair
9.00 Film: Ginger and Fred (1985) starring Marcello Mastroianni and Giufietta Massins. Satirical comedy on Italy's deregulated talevision Industry focusing on a reunion of a refired cabaret couple who used to

a reunion of a retired caberet
couple who used to
impersonate Fred Astaire and
Ginger Rogers. Directed by
Federico Fellini
11.25 Le Tango Stupesset. French
copera star Helene Delavault
performs turn-of-the-century
cabaret songs
12.15am First: The Return of Frank
James (1940, b/w) starring Henry
Fonda. The reformed outtaw is
making a living as a farmer when
he hears that his brother's
killer has been pardoned. Directed
by Fritz Lang. Ends at 2.10.

RTE 1 Starte: 9.20a

Pentomein 9.38 Newyddion 9.40 Pesti 'Dolig 7.40 Piller: Stormydd Am ger Ender Briton e W3 Jones 9.25 Gwyl Cymru 1368 19.25 Jean-Mich Jarre: Destraction Docklands 11.28 Accustic 14.25 Steam File: The Bush

Value and this Materbay (Johnny Walesmaller and Maurean O' Sulfran)
10.46 Finz Ring of Bright Water (39) Travers, Virginia McKanna) 12.30pec
Barbar 6 Fetter Christmas 12.30pec
Rorth-Wast Mounted Police (Gary
Cooper) 2.35 Albe in Wonderland 4.40
Santisa Tre 5.46 News 6.00 The Anpelus 6.01 No 1 4.30 ... And Finelly
France 7.30 Film: The Never-ending
Story 2.15 News 9.30 She's Got til
10.36 Film: Prizzi is Homour. Tale of a
Maffa family (Jack Mcholson, Kathleen
Turner) 12.46 sans Lais News 12.50
Closedown.

NETWORK 2 Starte: Demp-

Pulling out all stops

take the flak if things go year.

RADIO CHOICE • Having got it into their heads that Boxing Day and Ben Travers are one and the same (and who am I to question this?), the planners of Radio 4's holiday fare have come up with The Dippers (7.20pm). First a novel, then a stage play and now a radio by Peter King, it packs in every element of Travers farce except the falling trousers. In a daft plot, great fun is had with venerable lechers, mistaken identity and compromising Michael Williams reaching assignations in bedrooms. If it all gets out of hand now and again, just bear in mind that this is Boxing Day, and the hysteria will be easier to take.

There are three big names over the title - Judi Dench,

Michael Williams and Freddie

Jones - which means that the

BBC drama department has

said: "Let's pull out all the

197

new heights (R4, 7.20pm)

expense". Dame Judi and Mr Jones do what is expected of them, but the real surprise and the greatest delight — is Michael Williams. Always adept at producing the quivering tones that suggest the private Hell of diffident men, Mr Williams reaches new stops, and to the devil with the heights of jelly-wobbling

desperation as the mild-mannered solicitor posing as an eccentric jazz dancer at a partyin a stately home.

 The question mark in the title of Better Halves? (Radio 3, 7.05pm), a short series based on the premise that Behind every man ... ", suggests that the writer is a man. Either that or it is radio comedy we have here. As it happens, both conclusions are the proposition (not given much exposure in the history books) that Plato's Republic was actually Socrates's Republic, or rather. Mrs Socrates's Republic. She dictated it, Plato took it down. Other littleknown facts about Greece's golden days to be gleaned from Better Halves? are that Diogenes's first name was Ralph, Pythagoras was an Elton, and Socrates himself was called Herman because his Mum and Dad travelled a lot in the land of the Huns.

Peter Davalle

Roger Moore stars as the secret agent, James Bond, in

Octopussy, an adventure set partly in India (ITV, 3.40pm)

Radio 1

5.304M Admin John Scholard 10.00 Smon 52tes, incl 12.30 Newsbeat 2.00 Steve Wright 4.55 Newsbeat 5.00 UK Top 40 with Mark Goodler 7.00 The Beeb's Lost

Radio 2

Reatles Tanes 7.30 Radio 1's Christmas Concert featuring INXS a.30 John Peel 10.30-2.00am Andy Peebles Soul Train.

VHF Stereo
4.00am Bill Rennells 7.00
Chris Stuart 9.05 Ken Bruce
11.05 Michael Aspel's Solid
Gold Show 1.05 Christmas
Jottings of Hinge and Brackett
2.00 Adjum Love 4.00 Brian

Manhew 6.00 Frank Smatra in Concert 7.00 Alan Dell with Dance Band Days and at 7.30 Big Band Ers 8.30 Big Band Special

9.00 Humphrey Lyttelion with the Best of Jazz on Record 10.00 The Law Game 10.30 Double Bill 11.00 Joe Brown's Knees-Up 1.00 Airx Loster with Nightnde 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

MW (medium wave) as above except 2.00-6.00pm Boxing Day Sport on 2 featuring football.

rugby league, cricket and racing trom Kempton (2.20 King George VI Rank Steeplechase) Review of the Year 5.00 Sports

Report 5.30 Brain of Sport

wave) 5**.30om** Adrian John **8.00**

ANGLIA As London

Cluiz Night: Ross King's league quiz. BORDER As London
BORDER
BORDE

CHANNEL As London

GRANADA As London
Throe's Company, Three's Cirist-

SCOTTISH As London

VARIATIONS

TSW As London
except 2.15cm 2.65 Three's
Company, Three's Christman TVS As London except 3, 18es

TYNE TEES As London attempt 2,15 and 2,45 Three's Company: Three's

ULSTER As London
Three's Company.
YORKSHIRE As London
2.45 Three's Company. Three's
Christmas. Which invitation should the tricecopy?

Accept?

S4C Starts: 3.30am Spanne
Street 19.30 Film: Show People.

Silent satiriosi comedy starting Marion Davies. 12.26 pee Pobol y Cwm.
12.36 Racing from Kempton Park
12.46 Haven Novices' Hurdle 1.18
Budins Fethers Novices' Chase 1.48
Royal Garden Hotel Hrosp Hurdle 2.30
Ring Gaerge VI Rack Chase 2.80 Bel
Air Wayward Lad Novices' Chase 3.15
Film: Kid Millions (b)/w and colour).
Story of an Eastade Aid who (interits a fortune, starting Edde Centor and Ethel tune, starring Eddle Centor and Ethel Morman 8.00 Jac A'r Jarenlyns

sey's Den: Bosco 9.25 A Very Brady Christmes 11.69 The Pop Shop 1.00 Racing from Leoperdstown 3.25 The Christmas 11.88 The Pop Shop 1.60am Racing from Leoperdstown 3.55 The Small One 3.50 The Arabians 4.19 Film: The Karate Kid 4.35 Home and Away 8.55 Nucett 7.06 Carnal - La Le Stofale 7.30 Coronetion Street 8.00 The Carpeniars: Yesterday Once More 8.00 Fewilly Towers 9.30 Shartes of the Jelly Worsen 19.45 Surry Douglas 2.00am Closedown.

LW (long wave) (s) Stereo on VRE 5.65 Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 Prelude (s) 6.50 Prayer for the Day (s) 6.58 Weather

7.00 News 7.10 Boxing Dey with Susan Marking, Maureen Lipman and Patrick Stoddart, incl

and Patrick Stoddart, inci
6.09 News and 7.55, 8.57
Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Conversation Piece in
Hollywood (new series): In
the first of a through-theweek series Sue MacGregor
takes to Walter Matthau
8.38. The Food Propresenter After

s.38 The Food Programme: After the feast comes the fast. Why do people feel the need to fast? Derek Cooper examines secular and religious abstinence with Dr David Peters, secretary of the British Holletic Medical

Association ASSOCIATION
16.66 News; Perspective 88 (new series); Norman Stone,
Professor of Modern
History at Oxford University,
Introduces the first of five reviews of the year's topical issues. Today's subject is freedom and responsibility - is the Government

becoming too intrusive?

10.30 My Grandfather: First of five recollections by Denis Constanduros. Read by Benjamin Whitrow (s) (r)

10.45 Daily Service (s)

11.00 News: Grace Bumbry: Teléri Bevan talks to three

American opera singers. Today mezzo-soprano turned soprano Grace Bumbry (f)

12.60 News; Nation of
Shopkeepers (new series);
Debbie Thrower vietts five
different shops. The first
one is Groove Records in
London's Soho area 12.25 Triker, Tallor, Soldier, Spytoy John le Carre. Third of seven-part dramatization by Rene Bastico (s) (r) 12.56

ert dramatization by slico (s) (r) 12-56 Weather 1.00 News 1.10 News Cuiz of the Year: The year's memorable news stories recalled by Richard Ingrams, Alan Coren and

Ingrams, Alan Coren and Ian Histop. Burry Took is in the chair (s)

1.40 The Archers (f)

2.00 News; Vivaidi First of a two-part baroque portrait of the Venetian composer by Graeme Fife. With David Buck as Antonio Vivaidi (s)

2.47 The Blind Misleading the Blind: In the first of two autobiographical talks, Pater White recalls some

Peter White recals some of his schoolboy escapades (r)
3.00 News; Torn Jones: by Henry Fielding, adspited in six parts by Hellem Tennyson (s) (r)
4.30 Kaleidoscope: Christopher Cook reviews and updates the arts events of 1988 including the arrival of MOMI, the changing places of Peter Hell and Jeremy Isaacs, and the departure of Sir Firederick Asthon
4.46 Journey Round My People: Jamelcan-born Ferdi Dennis goes on a journey of Afro-Britain. His first stop is a poetry event at Yea Asantawa Arts Centre (r)
5.00 News

poetry event at Yae
Asantewa Arts Centre (r)
\$.00 News
5.05 Entertaining Mr Goeling:
Ray Gosling discovers how
Blackpool folk spend the
winter (r) \$.50 Shipping
Forecast \$.55 Weather
\$.05 K O'Clock News
\$.15 Loose Gags, Songs and
Storches (or a Night at the
Old Gaff; Salty comedy
telling the story of the
Clements Brothers and their
1902-1932 shows at
Skagness. Featuring Tim
Brocke-Taylor, Paulin Wilcox,
and Julia Hills (s)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Consedy at Christmas: The
Dippers (a) (see Choice)
8.50 Literary Weites: Alan Siliton
takes Christopher
Somerville to areas of
Nottinghamshire that have
formed the beckground to
some of his novels (r)
9.20 Cinderelle: Nigel Hawthorne
tells the first of five stories
with music, teaturing the
BBC Concert Crichestra
under Barry Worksworth (s)
(r)
9.48 Kafeldoscope: Paul Alien

9.48 //aleidoscope: Paul Allen investigates the new breed of people setting up publishing businesses (r) 10.18 A Book at Bedtime: Tess of the D'Ubervilles by Thomas Hierdy (8 of 20) 10.30 News 10.35 Fine Arts Brass Christmas .Speciel: Selection of seasonal music (s) 11.16 Down the River: Cliff Morgan follows the course of the River Test in Hampshire (a) (r)

Hampehire (s) (f)
19.00 News, incl 12.29 Westher
12.33 Shipping Forecast
Viter as LW except: 1.86-2.00pes
Listening Corner (e) with Bill Oddle.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;VHF-88-90.2 Radio 2: 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;VHF-88-90.2 Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; VHF-90-92.5 Radio 4: 199kHz/1515m;VHF-92-95. LBC: 1152kHz/ 251m;VHF-97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m;VHF98. Greenier London Radio: 1458kHz/205m;VHF 94.9; World Sarvice: MF648kHz/483m.

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Weather.
5.15 Out of the inkwell

11.00 Film: Fort Apache (1948, b/w) starring John Wayna and Henry Fonda. Western drama about an embittered US Cavalry colonel who is posted to a remote fort in the Arizona desert. Directed by John Ford. (Ceefax)
Film: The Ladykillers (1955, b/w) starring Alec Guinness.
Comedy about a group of crooks measurearting as crooks masquerading as musicians who plot their next escapade in the lodgings of one of

their number. Directed by Alexander Mackendrick (Ceefax)
3.20 Showreel 88. The first of a new series of work by amateur film and

video makers.

4.00 The Shape of the Nation. A gull's eye view of Britain's coastline starting at Land's End travelling anti-clockwise, accompanied by the music of Britain. The narrator for the English leg of the invarieu English leg of the journey is John Westbrook; for Scotland, Sally Magnusson; and Wales, Clay Jones. (Ceefax)

6.00 Film: The Maltese Falcon (1941, b/w) starring Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, Peter Lorra and Sydney Greenstreet. Classic thriller about a private detactive trying to trace a priceless black statuette. Directed by John Huston 7.40 Paradise. An award-winning animated film

7.55 Film: Otelio (1986) starring Placido Domingo. Franco Zeffirali's version of Verdi's 9.55 News From Pleasantville: The Story of Reader's Digest. (see

Choice)
10.45 Film: Local Hero (1983)

Runt Lancaster and Peter starring Burt Lancaster and Riegert. An executive of an American oil company has the task of sweet-talking the villagers of a remote area in Scotland where they want to

Scoand where they want to build a new refinery. Directed by Bill Forsyth. (Ceefax) 12.35am Film: Don't Look Back: (1967, b/w). A documentary tollowing Bob Dytan's concert tour of Sritain in 1965. Directed by D. A. Pennebaker. Ends 2.10. BBC1 WALES S.15pm-520 Wales Today \$00TLAND

GRAMPIAN As London except 3, 18em-s.48 Three's Company: Three's

HTV WEST As London
Bon Sidrart: On the Live Side. HTV WALES ASHTYWOOK

McLaughtin (soprano) perform Pieno Sonata in D Original canzonettas: The

Original Carzonetias: The Mermaid's Song; Recollection; A Pastoral Song; Despair, Pleasing Pain; and Fidelity, Piano Sonsta in C minor; Variations in F minor for piano; and String Quartet i G Op 76 No 1. Includes

G Op 76 No 1. Includes
1.55 interval reading
2.40 The Christmas Quiz: Annual
music quiz hosted by
Bernard Keeffe. Taking part
are Gallan Weir, Thomas
Allan, John McCabe and
Evelyn Barbirolli
3.30 Youth Orchestras of the
World: Midland Youth
Orchestra under James

World: Midland Youth
Orchestra under James
Langley perform Arnold's
Four Scottish Dances;
Schubert's Symphony No 8
in 8 minor (Unfinished); and
Watton's Suite from Henry
4.25 Musica Antiqua, Cologne: J
C F Bach's Sonata in C, for
the bernichtend and

flute, harpsichord and violin (r)
4.49 Lotte Leitmann (1888-1976):
Also Blyth reflects on the career of the German-born

soprano (r)
5.30 Barry Douglas: The pianist plays Tchelicovaky's Romance in F Op 51 No 5, and September, June,

7.00 News 7.05 Better Helves?: by

and September, June,
August (The Seasons):
Liszt's Apres une lecture du
Dante; and Beethoven's
Sonata in 8 fist Op 108
(Hammerklavier)

Christopher Hope. With Patricia Routledge and Derek Fowlds

with London Symphony Chorus, Vienna Wind Soloists, with Karita Mattila

7.30 Mozart and Beethoven: Vianna Philharmonic Orchestra under Abbado,

Three's Company, Three's Christ-ries. The Trio find themselves with two party invitations. Radio 3

6.55 Weather, followed by News 7.00 Christmas Oratorio: J S Bach's Und es waren Hirten in derselben Gegend: English Baroque Soloists and Monteverdi Choir under Gardiner with Ruth Holton caroner with Hotoh (soprano), Nancy Argenta (soprano), Anne Sofie von Otter (mezzo-soprano), Anthony Rolfe-Johnson (tenor), Hans-Peter Blockwitz (tenor), and Otaf Bar (baritone)

Bar (baritone)
7.30 News
7.35 News
7.35 News
(Valses nobles et sentimentales: Suisse Romande Orchestra under Ansermet); Canteloube (Bailero; Oi Ayai; and La Delaissado: RPO under Almelda with Frederica von Stade, soprano); Poulenc (Organ Concento: French National Radio Orchestra under Mertinon with Marie-Claire Alain, organ)
8.30 News

8.35 Composers of the Week: Sir Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900). Overture di bello: RLPO where a King: David Wilson-Johnson (bartone) and Antony Saunders (piano); Duo concertante: David Smth (cello) and John Parry (piano); Incidental music to The Tempest: CBSO under Duom 9.30 Gionous John: Celebration

of the conductor and cellist, Sir John Barorrolli with the Halle Orchestra, New Philharmonia Orchestra, New York Philharmonic New York Philharmonic Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, Evelyn Barbirolli (oboe), Janet Beker (mezzosoprano), Jacqueline du Pre (celio) and Ruth Fermoy (piano). Brahms's Academic Festival Overture: Gounod's Little Symphony for wind; Pergolesti's Concerto for oboe and strings (arr Barbirolli); Saint-Saens's The Swan; Sibelius's The Swan of Tuonela: Ravel's Sheherazade; Berlioz' Overture Roman Cernival;

All times in GMT.

7.00 No. of 7.09 24 Hours 7.30 Manarchs 6.00 Nows 8.09 Words of Faith 3.15 Five Volume 5.00 Nows 8.09 Words of Faith 3.15 Five Volume 5.00 Nows 9.00 Constitute 5.30 Anything Goes 9.00 Nows 9.00 Constitute 5.30 Anything Goes 9.00 Nows 9.00 Nows 9.00 The Virillage Ghart 10.00 Nows 5.00 Nows 10.00 Whit Cond Music 11.00 Nows 10.00 Nows 9.00 Nows 11.00 Nows 9.00 12.15 Product in 12.45 The World Today 1.00 Nows 9.00 12.15 Product in 12.45 The World Today 1.00 Nows 1.09 24 Hours 1.39 Monarch 2.00 Nows 1.09 No Sheherazade; Berfioz'
Overture Roman Camival;
Elgar's Cello Concerto in E
manor: Mahler's Symphony
No 3 in C sharp minor
12.50 Summoned by the Bells:
1960 recording of John
Beljeman reading his 10chapter autobiographical
poem Chapter one; Before em. Chapter one: Before poem. C 1914 (r) 1.00 News
1.05 A Haydn Festivat: First of nine concerts of Haydn's late chamber works. Takacs Quartet with Radu Lupu

(piano) and Marie

Soloists, with Karita Mattila (soprano), Alfreda Hodgson (mezzo-soprano), Jerry Hadiey (tenor), and Robert Holl (bass), perform Mozart's Serenade in E flat (K 375); and Beethoven's Symphony No 9 in D minor (Choral)

9.10 A Short Welk from London to Venice: Mike Steer's adaptation of Thomas Corvate's Crudities. With adaptation of Thomas
Coryate's Crudities. With
John Wells (r)

9.55 Jorge Bolet: The planist
plays Mendelssoftn's Rondo
capricticos in E Op 14;
Franck's Prelude to Choral
et Europe, and Rolliel's et Fugue; and Bellini's Reminiscences de Norme 10.55 Compass Points: The

second excursion in phetry and prose travels south 11,05 Composers of the Week;

Schubert (r) 12.05 News 12.10em Ends

Firsts and old favourites in store

Our guide to post-Christmas viewing and listening

starts with a

complete list of

feature films

HOLIDAY TUESDAY

AROUND THE WORLD WITH DOT (1982): Australian children'a cartoon in which Santa helps a little girl find her lost kangaroo. BBC1, 7.50-8.58am.

THE MIRACLE OF THE WHITE STALLIONS (1962): Disney family adventure with Robert Taylor as the director of Vienna's Spanish Riding School trying to save his horses from the Nazis. TV. 9.50-noon

WORDS AND MUSIC (1948): Tom Drake and Mickey Rooney in a likeable and song-filled biopic of Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart. BBC2, 10am-noon.

PASSPORT TO PIMLICO (1949): Stanley Holloway and Margaret Rutherford lead the fun in the classic Ealing comedy about a London suburb declaring UDI from Britain's post-war susterity. BBC2. noon-1.20pm.

SHANE (1953): George Stevens's deliberately paced and impressively crafted western, with Alan Ladd as the mysterious gunfighter coming to the aid of a family of homesteaders. ITV, 12.40-2.50pm.

THE HEROES OF TELEMARK (1965): Over-long Second World War adventure with Richard Harris and Kirk Douglas as resistance workers destroying a heavy water plant in occupied Norway.

THE AFRICAN QUEEN (1951): Humphrey Bogart's drunken river trader and Katharine Hepburn's prim missionary make a delightfully odd couple in John Huston's classic comedy-adventure. BBC2, 6.50-8.30pm.

THE EAGLE HAS LANDED (1976): Donald Sutherland and Michael Caine in so-so version of Jack Higgins's story about a Nazi plot to kidnap Winston Churchill.

BBC1, 9.50pm-michight. THE WICKED LADY (1945): Highway robbery with Margaret Lockwood and James Mason in the king of the Gainsborough melodramas, Considered scandalous at the time, now a quaint period piece. BBC1, midnight-1.40am.

FURY (1936): Fritz Lang making his Hollywood debut with a powerful lynch-mob drama starring Spencer Tracy as the tragic victim of mistaken identity. Channel 4, 12.40-2.25am.

BATTLEFLAG (1977): Simon Ward as an Austrian officer in love and

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All sacked up and ready to go: Billy (Zach Galligan) steps out on the road to adventure carrying his eccentric travelling companion (Gremlins: Thursday, ITV, 9-10pm, 10.20-11.20pm)

battle during the final days of the First World War. ITV, 1.15-3.30am. British television premiere

WEDNESDAY

WHISKY GALOREI (1949): Alexander Mackendrick's witty and fast-moving Ealing comedy with Hebridean islanders trying to outwit the customs men over shipwrecked Scotch. Joan Greenwood shines in a cast of British comedy stalwarts. BBC2, noon-1.20pm.

ONE MAGIC CHRISTMAS (1985): Harry Dean Stanton plays angel to a family with problems in a Disney fantasy reminiscent of the old James Stewart vehicle, It's a Wonderful Life. ITV, 1.30-3.15pm.

British television premiere

GERONIMO (1962): Chuck Connors as the Apache chief in a

cavalry versus Indians adventure which tries to be fair to the Indians. BBC1, 2.10-3.50pm.

BUSHFIRE MOON (1987): Australian children's film about a white bearded rascal (Charles Tingwell) mistaken for Santa Claus. BBC1, 4.45-5.35pm; concludes Friday 4.40-5.35pm. British television premiere.

THE TREASURE OF THE SIERRA MADRE (1947): John Huston directs his father, Walter Huston, Humphrey Bogart and Tim Holt in a in Mexico. et tale of gold prospecting BBC2, 6-8.05pm.

THE COTTON CLUB (1984): Francis Coppola's messy epic of jazz, gangsters and romance in 1930s Harlem; with Richard Gere, Gregory Hines and Bob Hoskins. BBC2, 9.40-11.40pm. British television premiere.

TOP SECRET! (1984): Tepid spy spoof from the Airplane! team.

ITV, 10.20pm-midnight. British television premiere

TWO RODE TOGETHER (1961): James Stewart and Richard Widmark seeking the release of prisoners held by the Comanches BBC1, Wed, 11pm-12.45am.

MINISTRY OF FEAR (1943): Ray Milland wins a cake at a village fete and wishes he hadn't in Fritz Lang's crisp and unpretentious

Channel 4, 11.55pm-1.30am. ROBBERY (1967): Peter Yates's afficient fictional reconstruction of the Great Train Robbery of four years earlier, with Stanley Baker ITV. 1-3.05am.

THURSDAY

THE MAN IN THE WHITE SUIT (1951): Unusually barbed Ealing comedy from Alexander Mackendrick with Alec Guinness as the hapless inventor of an indestructible fabric who manages to enrage both bosses and unions. BBC2, 11.55am-1.20pm.

SHERLOCK JUNIOR (1924): Buster Keaton as the cinema projectionist who dreams of becoming a great detective; one of his best silents with an avalanche of brilliant gags. Channel 4, 1-1.50pm.

JASON AND THE ARGONAUTS (1963): Todd Armstrong plays Jason but the real star is the special effects man, Ray

Harryhausen. ITV, 1.30-3.25pm. **DEVIL-SHIP PIRATES (1963):** Hammer taking time out from horror with a pirate adventure featuring Christopher Lee as a brutal Spanish captain.

BBC1, 2.10-3.30pm. TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT (1945): Loosely based on a Hemingway story of the wartime French

resistance and the film in which director Howard Hawks launched the potent screen chemistry of Humphrey Bogart and new screen star Leuren Bacall. BBC2, 6-7.35pm.

GREMLINS (1984): Joe Dante's smash hit horror fantasy from the Spielberg factory about little furry creatures who have to be handled gently. Tergeted at the family audience but not recommended for ITV, 9-10pm, 10.20-11.20pm. British television premiere

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST (1975): Jack Nicholson raising hell in a mental hospital with nurse Louise Fletcher in Milos Forman's triumphant, Oscar-laden version of the Ken Kesey novel. BBC2, 10pm-12.05am.

British television premiere M (1931): Peter Lorre as the pathetic child murderer hunted down by criminals in Fritz Lang's out all the expressionist stops. Channel 4, 11,50pm-1,50am.

ONLY ANGELS HAVE WINGS (1939): Cary Grant, Jean Arthur and Rits Hayworth lead Howard Hawks's tough and wryly humorous story of armen under

BBC1, midnight-1.55am. NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CLASS REUNION (1982): The Animal House formula applied to murderous goings-on at a college reunion. ITV, 12.20-2em.

MURDER BY DECREE (1978): Sherlock Holmes (Christopher Plummer) in tedious pursuit of Jack the Ripper, despite strong cast and striking seta. ITV, 3-5am.

FRIDAY

TO PARIS WITH LOVE (1955): Thin comedy from Robert (Kind Hearts and Coroners) Harner about a widower (Alec Gumness) and his son seeking romance in the French capital. BSC2, 11.45am-1pm.

THE LADY EVE (1941): Sparkling Preston Sturges comedy with Barbara Stanwyck as the cardsharper outwirted by Henry Fonda's naive millionaire. Channel 4, 1-2.45pm.

FLYING LEATHERNECKS (1951): John Wayne as a martinetish marine commander at the battle of Guadalcanal; tedious drama, spectacular flying sequences BBC1, 2.10-3.50pm.

CASABLANCA (1942): Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman romantically teamed in war-torn BBC2, 6-7.40pm.

THE BLACK HOLE (1979): Maximilian Schell as a mad scientist in the Disney space fantasy. The gadgetry is more arresting than the people. ITV, 6.30-8.15pm.

BLUE THUNDER (1982): Frenzied thritier starring Roy Scheider as a Los Angeles helicopter pilot haunted by memories of Vietnam. BBC1, 9.30-11.15pm.

STOP MAKING SENSE (1984): Jonathan Demme's superb rock concert film with Talking Heads. BBC2, 10.20-11.45pm.

PAULINE AT THE BEACH (1982): Erich Rohmer's subtle and stylish study of young Pansians enjoying a holiday romance in Normandy. BBC2, 11.45pm-1.20am.

STALAG 17 (1953): Billy Wilder's cynical comedy-drama about Americans in a German prison camp. BBC1, 11.55pm-1.55am.

YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE (1937): convict on the run

Channel 4, 11.55pm-1.30am LUST IN THE DUST (1985): Tab Hunter and Divine head Paul Bartel's fitfully amusing spoof TV, 12.35-2am. British television premiere.

THE JANUARY FUR SALE . JANUARY FUR SALE . JANUARY FUR SALE THAT JANUARY SALE THAT IN THE COLD LEAVES OTHERS OUT IN THE COLD JANUARY FUR SALE - JANUARY FUR SALE - JANUARY FUR SALE - JANUARY FUR SALE -FOX JACKETS & MUSQUASH JACKETS (SECTION) £129 FUR LINED RAINCOATS £150 £595 RACCOON JACKETS 3/4 LENGTH £279 £695 MINK JACKETS VARIOUS COLOURS SCANDINAVIAN BLUE FOX COATS FULLENGTH £299 £895 £399 £1195 MINK COATS (SECTION) FULL LENGTH £695 £1495 SILVER FOX COATS PULLENGTH DESIGNER MINK/FOX TRIM COATS FULL LENGTH £795 £2195 FULLY STRANDED CANADIAN RACCOON COATS £995 £2995 FULLY STRANDED DESIGNER MINK COATS Two days only Monday 26 December and Tuesday 27 December. 9.30am-6pm. At the Cyril Kaye Superstore The Cyril Kaye Fur Superstore



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Battle of the heavyweights

TELEVISION)

Two dramatic heavyweights sday, and I do not mean the feature-length Bergerac (BBC1, 8pm). On BBC2 the Jack Lemmon season continues with Long Day's Journey Into Night (9.35pm), with Lemmon as Engene O'Neill's disintegrating patriarch in the production by Jonathan Mil-

End two years ago.
On Channel 4, meanwhile,
Othello (9pm) gives Shakespeare's study of racial prejrary relevance by staging it in Johannesburg with a black South African, John Kani, in the title role. The production marks the directing debut of South African-born Janet Suzman.

ler which played in the West

On Wednesday, Hollywood reteran James Stewart talks to Wogan (BBC1, 7pm) but they the interview than Two Rode Together (BBC1, 11pm). Liza Goddard and co-author Ray Cooney lead the marital com-edy Wife Begins at 40 (BBC1, 9.30pm). Unusually for a television play, it was recorded before a studio audience.

Channel 4's cultural treat on Wednesday is Eugene Onegin (9pm), a film of Tchaikovsky's opera shot in the original locations to an audio recording made by Sir Georg Solti at Covent Garden in the 1970s. The French and Saunders Christmas Special (BBC1, 9pm) will be less anodyne than most other people's specials.

Thursday's nostalgic Lady Be Good (BBC2, 7.35pm), is about Ivy Benson and her allgirl dance band. Comedy writers Jonny Perry and David Croft have raided the casts of Hi-De-Hi and It Ain't Half Hot Mum for an hour-long pilot You Rang, M'Lord? (BBC1, 8pm) about life above



Patriarch: Jack Lemmon (BBC2, Tuesday, 9.35pm)

Also on Thursday The British and the Oscars (ITV, 7pm) celebrates British-born recipients of the statuette such as Caine, Pattnam and Attenborough and, yes, Bob Hope, and throws in Joan Fontaine and Olivia de Havilland, daugh-ters of British parents. Roger

animation and live action. After starring with John Hurt in Poison Candy, American actress Karen Young turns up again on Friday in David Pirie's Wild Things (BBC2, 9pm), in which two nasty kids plot to destroy their dad's relationship with his new girlfriend. There is a drama of a more traditional kind in Rennaissance Theatre's sparkling Twelfth Night (Channel 4, 9pm), with Kenneth Branagh directing Richard Briers (Malvolio) and Frances Barber (Viola).

Time was when no Christmas was complete without people like Glenda Jackson making fools of themselves with Eric and Ernie. Reminders of those golden moments are provided by The Musical Classics of Morecambe and Wise (BBC1, 7.40pm). In Art Review '88 (ITV, 10.35pm) Melvyn Bragg looks back with the help of David Hare and

this production is the seventh.

Benjamin Britten. Scored for

solo singers, chorus and sym-

phony orchestra, it was

Britten's most substantial work for radio and stage

drama. Richard Pasco plays

Odysseus, with Anna Massey

as Penelope.

The incidental music is by

Rare words with a reticent star

RADIO

In Tuesday's Conversation Piece in Hollywood (Radio 4, 9.05am) Sue McGregor takes on the notoriously interviewshy Anne Bancroft. Since the programme is scheduled to last 30 minutes, listeners may assume that McGregor does somewhat better than Terry Woran when faced with the

Alan Bennett plays Machiavelli, with Pronella Scales as his missus in Better Halves? (Radio 3, 7.05pm), the second of Christopher Hope's "historical travesties". Sigmund Freud (Andrew Sachs) meets Sherlock Holmes (Ronald Pickup) in Cecil Jenkins's spoof, The Singular Case of Sherlock H. and Sigmand F. (Radio 3, 8.55pm), which aims to throw new light on the

fate of Professor Moriarty. Bennett turns up again on Wednesday in a repeat of his School comedy, Forty Years On (Radio 4, 7.20pm). Packed with Bennett wit and whimsy, it also stars John Gielgud as the retiring headmaster and Paul Eddington as the succes-sor. In Wessen's Hour (Radio



As berself: Anne Bancroft (R4, Tuesday, 9.05am)

ever that might be.

Maurice Denham helped to install the lifts at Broadcasting House. He has been there on and off ever since, giving a stream of marvellous radio performances from ITMA and Much Binding in the Marsh to classical and modern drama.

On Thursday he plays Moliere's hypochondriac Argan in a special production of The Imaginary Invalid (Radio 4,



in broadcasting. Jane Lapot-aire, Charlotte Attenborough

and Stratford Johns head a

strong supporting cast.
The Friday Play on Radio 3
is Edward Sackville-West's

4. 20m) Jenni Murray lets her hair down and stars in a postfeminist pantomime, what-

Before he became an actor,

7.20pm) to mark his 50th year



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TUESDAY NEXT 27 DECEMBER at 3.30 p.m. **ENGLISH CHAMBER**

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FAMILY CLASSICS

J. STRAUSS: Die Fledermans Overture; SOUSA: Washington
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Microsche"; SRUCCHE Violine Concerne; SELEP PEL Light Creatry
Overture; GRIEG: Poer Gynt Suire No 1; ELGARL Pomp and
Circumstance No 1; RAWEL: Bolero.

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MONDAY 2 JANUARY at 3 and 245 p.m. MUSIC AND DANCE FROM THE BALLET

TCHAIROVSEN: The Neutrober Some unc. Grand Pen de Deux", Super Phon Feort and Tarantella", Swan Lake (accepts) unc. White Swan Pen De Doux", Sleeping Benny Waltz; Rundy-Korsikov Schehernende (theme): ADAM: Guelle Pensam Pan de Deux"; MENDELSSOHN's Noemme (A Midsummer Night's Dream), KREISLER: The Dragundy: HEROLD: Clog Dance from Le File Mal Garder ("These stems will be danced) ORCHESTRA OF THE SADLERS WELLS ROYAL BALLET Constructe: BRAAFWELL TOVEY MARGARET BARRIERI, KARREN DONOVAN, MARION TAIT, ALAIN DUBRIELIT. MARION TAIT, ALAIN DUBREUIL, DAVID MORSE, MICHAEL O'HARE PRINCIPAL DANCERS OF THE SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET

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TCHAIKOVSKY

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Conductor: FRASER GOULDING MALCOLM BINNS
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SATURDAY 7 JANUARY 21 8 p.m. THE PHILHARMONIA

Mozart......MARRIAGE OF FIGARO OVERTURE
Schubert.......SYMPHONY No 8 (UNFINISHED)
Beethoven PIANO CONCERTO No 5 (EMPEROR)
MOZART......SYMPHONY No 49
Conductor BARRY WORDSWORTH RONAN O'HORA piano (6.50, (8.50, (10.50, (12.50, ()4

TUESDAY 24 JANUARY at 745 p.m. SPANISH EVENING MSRY KORSAKOV: Capacoo Espaçoole, BEZET: Carmen RODRIGO: Concierto De Amutue; FALLA: Three Dances from the Three-Contend Hat; CHABRIER: Espana; RAVEL: Bolero

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FRIDAY 20 JANUARY at 7.30 p.m. THE ROMANCE OF TCHAIKOVSKY

ROMEO AND JULIET OVERTURE: PLANO CONCERTO
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No immunity without official notice

nomic Community based at this [Judgment December 21] Embassy". On the assumption that a person who claimed diplomatic immunity had been duly notified by a foreign state to Her Majesty's Government as having been appointed as a member of its embassy staff in England, the person was nonetheless not entitled to immunity if the government had not accepted

For that and other reasons the Queeo's Beoch Divisional Court dismissed an application by Lorrain Esme Osman for habeas corpus, Mr Osman having been committed to custody on June 1, 1987 by the Metropolitan Chief Magistrate under section 7(5) of the Fugitive Offenders Act 1967 to await his return to Hong Kong for trial on 42 charges of dishonesty.

the appointment.

Before Lord Justice Mustill and Mr Justice McCowan

42 charges of dishonesty.

Mr D. Martin Thomas, QC and Miss Helena Kennedy for Mr Osman; Mr Clive Nicholls, QC and Miss Clare Montgomery for the Governor of Pentonville Prison; Mr Clive Nicholls, QC and Mr Graham Grant (of the Hong Kong Bar) for the Government of Hong Kong; Mr John Mummery for the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

LORD JUSTICE MUSTILL aid that Mr Osman had air made one (unsuccessful)
application for habeas corpus (R
v Governor of Pentonville Prison,
Ex parte Osman (The Times
April 13, 1988)).

He now applied again principally on the ground that at the time of his arrest and of his committel, he was entitled to immunity from 'criminal pro-cess as a diplomatic agent of the Republic of Liberia.

A copy of a note of October 29, 1985 from the Liberian Embassy in London addressed

Regina v Governor of to the secretary of state, which was before the court, stated that Mr Osman had been appointed as "Ambassador-at-large and economic consultant to coun-

tries within the European Eco-

There was no evidence as to the manner in which the Li-berian Embassy transmitted or sought to transmit the original of the document to the Foreign ("FCO"). On the same date Mr Osman re-entered the United Kingdom and in December

1985 he was arrested.
Nothing was said about the possibility of diplomatic immunity until May 1987 when the Liberian Foreign Ministry sent a note to the FCO requesting that Mr Osman be released on the ground of his appointment as aforesaid.

There followed corres-

pondence in which the FCO expressed its view that Mr Osman was not a member of the staff of the Liberian Embassy and was not entitled to any diplomatic privileges or immu-nities, and the Embassy re-iterated the substance of the May 1987 note.
A further important docu-

ment was a ceruficate dated October 10, 1988 by Mr Hervey, the Vice-Marshal of the Dipunder Score and Assistant Under-scoretary of State in the FCO, that Mr Osman "has not been notified to the FCO as a member of the [Liberian Embessy] and . . . is not and has not been accepted as a member of staff of the Embassy".

On the same day Mr Hervey

swore an affidavit in which he said, inter alia, that there was no trace in the files of the October 1985 note por of any memorandum relating to it, and that in any event the form of the notification was not in ac-cordance with the accepted correct procedure, namely the completion of a form called

lomatic immunity, was required as to notification and acceptance (or agr'ment).

Much argument had been

addressed to the court, but the relevant law was clear from R v Governor of Pentonville Prison, Ex parte Teja ([1971] 2 QB 274) and R v Lambeth Justices, Ex parte Yusufu (The Times February 20, 1985).

Mr Osman's contention, based on certain articles of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961), that agr'ment was not a necessary condition for the conferment of diplomatic immunity, could not succeed. That was decisive of the case.
It followed from Teja and

Yusufu that the government, having an unfettered right to decide whether to recognize the diplomatic status of a pominec. was also at liberty in set its own administrative conditions in be fulfilled before an opinion on recognition was formed. Therefore. Mr Thomas's argument that the FCO was not entitled to insist on the ootification being in the TX9 form, must also fail. There had also been much argument on issues arising from the presence of Mr Hervey's affidavit, and section 4 of the Diplomatic Privileges Act 1964,

which provided:

"If in any proceedings any question arises whether or not any person is entitled to any privilege or immunity under this Act a certificate issued by or under the authority of the under the authority of the secretary of state stating any fact relating to that question shall be conclusive of that fact."

There appeared to be some common ground, for example that the evidence furnished by

section 4 was to be conclusive, not exclusive. So if toere was no certificate, or the certificate did not deal with the fact in question, the litigant was free to prove the fact by any admissible evidence; and no the other hand, the certificate was not the TX9.

The principal question was what, for the purposes of dip
only way in which the secretary of state could bring his opinions to the attention of the court.

matters in dispute, on which (although these matters, as everything other than the Teja point, were not necessary for the decision), his Lordship would

offer an opinion: I By reason of the wording in section 4, which was different from that in some other statutes. the secretary of state's certificate bound the courts on issues of fact relating to diplomatic privileges, but not on his opinion on any question of law involved.

2 Although the effect of section 4 was to exclude any evidence contrary to facts stated in the cernficate, it did not render inadmissible any other evidence opinion which the secretary of state wished to put before the court, by way of explanation of the certificate or otherwise.

3 If the secretary of state did firmish further explanatory material, which was put in at the hearing without objection, it was not open to him to decide later in withdraw it — although he could provide still further

information to explain or amplify what had gone before. It would never be permissible to require, or even invite, the secretary of state to send a representative to court to be cross-examined oo ceruficate.

Further reasons for dismissing the spolication were that, on consideration of the documents stating what post at the Liberian Embassy Mr Osman was in occupy, the FCO was right in its opinion that Mr Osman was not a member of the Embassy staff, and that any immunity which might have existed had been waived by notes from the Em-bassy in October 1988, one of which stated that the immunity was waived "to allow the law to take its course

Mr Justice McCowan delivcred a concurring judgment. Solicitors: Evershed & Tomkinson for Johnson & Co. Birmingham; Director of Public Prosecutions; Macfarlaces; Treasury Solicitor.

Extradition courts bound by previous cases

Regina v Governor of Brixton Prison, Ex parte Aronson Before Lord Justice Bingham and Mr Justice Leggatt

[Judgment December 20] Where courts were dealing with extradition requests, they were constrained by precedent to embark on a course of literal comparison of legal definitions without regard to the actual substance of the alleged offences or an inquiry into the accused person's conduct and an analy-

sis of where he stood in English The Queen's Bench Di-visional Court so held in a habeas corpus action by Richard Allen Aronson challenging the warrant of committal given on the basis of an authority to proceed. The court quashed 69 of 77 charges in the schedule attached to the authority to proceed where the Canadian offences alleged as relevant offences lacked an essential ingredient necessary to secure a

conviction under an equivalent charge under English law. Mr Robert Alun Jones for and Mr Michael Birnbaum for the Governor of Brixton Prison and the Canadian Government.

LORD JUSTICE BINGHAM said that where a Common-wealth country, designated

under the Fugitive Offenders
Act 1967, sought to extradite a
person accused of a "relevant
offence" as defined by section

an English court of committal in
determining whether an offence
was a relevant offence under
section 3 was to determine: 3(1)(c) of that Act an authority to proceed was issued by the Secretary of State for the Home Office and the court of committal had to satisfy itself that the offences to which the authority to proceed related was a relevant offence and that the evidence would be sufficient in warrant the accused person's trial if it had been committed here.

The schedule attached to the authority to proceed contained details of 78 offences alleged to have been committed in Can-ada, each a contravention of a specified section of the Criminal Code of Canada.

The court of committal held that Aronsoo should he committed on all but one of the illeged offences and the crux of the present application was whether 69 of the remaining 77 alleged offences should stand. Section 3(1)(c) was intended

to ensure that an accused person would not be returned if his alleged conduct did not amount to an offence under English law. It was, however, plain that complete correspondence be-tween a crime as defined in the of the warrants.

(a) whether or not the designated Commonwealth country's offence (with or without additional ingredients) fell within any of the descriptions on the schedule: (b) whether it was punishable

under that country's law with 12 months imprisonment or more: (c) whether the accused per-son's conduct relied on would be criminal in England if that conduct had occurred here. His Lordship would expect to

review the evidence adduced and consider where the accused person's conduct would place him in terms of English law. The matter was not free from authority.

In R v Governor of Brixton

Prison, Ex parte Guiller ([1968] 2 QB 399) the au 19 alleged only a false preter as to future conduct, which was not criminal under the law of England although it was under the law of New Zealand. Although it was not unlikely that the facts disclosed false pre-tences as to existing facts the tences as to existing facts the court felt bound by the language of the warrants.

including in the foreign charge the missing English elements, but that might have been ex-

respective countries was required.

Were the matter free from anthority his Lordship said he should conclude that the task of

However, in the two cases

no contravention of English law, In the unreported case of R v Governor of Pentonville Prison,
Ex parte Myers (No 293/72)
Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, held it necessary to look
squarely at the terms of the
charge in whatever form of construction seemed right and to ask whether those terms in themselves went beyond the limits of English law.

In R v Governor of Pentonville Prison, Ex parte Osman (No 1) (The Times April 13, 1988) Mr Nicholls suggested, as he did here, that the law had taken a wrong turning. His argument attracted the Divisional Court (Lord Justice I Lord and Mr. (Lord Justice LLoyd and Mr Justice French) which, however, felt itself bound, as the present court did, to follow the

MR JUSTICE LEGGATT agreeing, said it had become the task of those advising a person sought to be extradited to detect elements in the English crime which were absent from the foreign charge.

Success in that attempt was pected to have imperilled the foreign charge when the defendant came to be arraigned. Solicitors: Sheridans: Trea-

Procedure for admitting computer printout sections 68 and 69 of the 1984

Regina v Minors Regina v Harper

Before Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Bush and Mr Justice

Steyn [Judgment December 14] Where there was a disputed issue as to the admissibility of a computer printout, the trial jodge should adopt the proce-dure of a trial within a trial to determine whether the prosecu-

tion had extablished the foundation requirements of sections 68 and 69 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. In coming to his conclusion, he ought to apply the ordinary criminal standard of proof and to bear in mind his power to exclude at his discretion prejudicial evidence which ought not

The Court of Appeal so stated in dismissing the appeal of Craig Minors against his conviction on October 7, 1987 at Acton on Ccioner 7, 1987 at Acton Crown Court (Judge Clark and a jury) of two charges of at-tempted deception and using a false instrumcot, on which he was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment suspended for two years; and upholding the appeal of Giselle Gaile Harper appeal of Giselle Gaile Harper against her conviction on August 4, 1987 at Wood Green Crown Court (Mr Recorder Goldstein and a jury) of handling stolen goods, on which she had been conditionally discharged for 12 months.

Section 68 of the 1984 Act provides: "(1) Subject to section 69 below, a statement in a document shall be admissible in any proceedings as evidence of any fact stated therein . . . if — (a) the document is or forms part of a record compiled by a person acting under a duty from information supplied by a person (whether acting under a duty or not) who had, or may reasonably be supposed to have had, personal knowledge of the matters dealt with in that information; and (b) any condition relating to the person who supplied the information . . . is

"(2) The conditions mentioned..., above are — (a) that the person who supplied the information (i) is dead ... or unfit to attend as a witness; (ii) is outside the United Kingdom and it is not reasonably prac-ticable to secure his attendance; or (iii) cannot reasonably be expected ... to have any recollection of the marters dealt with . . . (b) that all reasonable steps have been taken to identify the peron who supplied the information but that he cannot be identified; and (c) that the identity . . . being known, all reasonable steps have been taken ... but ... he cannot be

any proceedings, a statement contained in a document produced by a computer shall not be admissible as cyidence of any fact stated therein unless it is shown — . . (b) that at all material times the computer was operating properly, or if not, that any respect in which it was

not operating properly of was out of operation was not such as to affect the production of the document or the accuracy of its Mr Robert Tremblett, signed by the Registrar of Crim-inal Appeals, for Minors, Mr Walter Bealby for the Crown; Mr Robert Meikle, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Ap-peals, for Harper, Mr Warwick McKinnon, who did not appear below, for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE STEYN, giving the judgment of the court, said that the law of evidence had to be adapted to the realities of contemporary business practice. Often the only record of a transaction, which nobody could be expected in remember, would be in the memory of a computer. If computer output could not relatively readily be used as evidence in criminal cases, much crime would in practice be immune from prosecution.

On the other hand computers were not infallible. The legislature no doubt had in mind such ture no doubt had in mind such considerations when it exacted an argument had to fail.

before the court it was obvious in each case that the prosecuting counsel, defence counsel and the judge fundamentally misunder-stood the meaning of those statutory provisions in their application to the admissibility computer printouts. It was their Lordships impression that that misunderstanding might not be restricted to those in

volved in the two appeals. Section 68 had been repealed by Section 24 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 but the provisions of section 24 had not, as yet, been brought into opera-tion. Notably there was absent from the new provision a requirement that the document should have been compiled by a person "acting under a duty"

In the courts below it had been assumed by all concerned that section 69 constituted a self-contained code governing the admissibility of computer records in criminal proceedings. There was some tenuous

textual support for that view. Section 69(2) refers to cases "where it is desired to give a statement in evidence hy virtue of this section".

Arguably that suggested that a computer record might be admissible solely by reason of the provisions of section 69. In

The wording of section 68 was wide enough in cover a com-puter printout of, for example, a building society account. Sectron 68 was not only ant to apply to computer records but had been enacted agenst the back-ground of a decistoo of the Court of Appeal, on materially similar wording, bolding that if

was wide enough in cover computer records. Section 69 was negative in form; it laid down additional requirements for the admissibility of a computer record which had already passed the hurdle of section 68.

In other words such a document would only be admissible if it satisfied the foundation requirements of both sections 68 and 69.

A computer printout did not prove itself. The foundation requirements of section 68 could not, except to the case of medical unfitness to testify, be proved by certificate and must therefore be proved by oral evidence in the absence of admissions.
This result severely reduced,

in relation to computers, the utility of the provision allowing the requirements of section 69 to be proved by a certificate. In passing it was noted that the foundation requirements of section 24 of the 1988 Act would not be susceptible of proof by certificate.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, North London.

Different punishments create different offences

Gardner v DPP Before Lord Justice Bingham and Mr Justice Leggatt

[Judgment December 7] When an information or indictment contained statutory charges which included allega-tions of the existence of two alternative states of affairs giving rise to the offence with different levels of maximum punishment attached to them, then it was clear that Parliament had thereby created two of-fences and they should either be distinguished in the particulars of the offence or shown as

different counts.

Under section 5(1) and section 6(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1972, (section 6 as substriuted by section 25(3) of and Schedule 8 to the Transport Act 1981) an offence was committed when a person drove or at-tempted to drive when unfit through drink or drugs or with excess alchohol in his body and

committed if the person was likewise in charge of the motor vehicle, for which disqualification was discretionary. There ere in effect two offences in each of sections 5 and 6.

The Queen's Bench Di-visional Court so held when giving judgment in favour of the appellant, Raymond Gardner, in his appeal by way of case stated from a decision by Portsmouth Justices that be was subject to obligatory dis-qualification for failing to pro-vide two specimens of breath without reasonable excuse contrary to section 8(7) of the Road Traffic Act 1972, as substituted, when an offence under section 5 or section 6 was suspected.

Mr Graham Lyons for Mr Gardner, Mr Frank Moat for the

MR JUSTICE LEGGATT said a police constable in the course of investigating whether was liable to mandatory dis-qualification. Under section under section 5 or section 6 and 5(2) and section 6(1)(b), as substituted, an offence was said that he had cause to suspect

specify which offence had been committed, whether the accused was driving or attempting to drive, or was in charge, then it was a matter of fact for the justices to find; but where, as here, a particular offence bad been specified then there was no room for dispute.

His Lordship followed R v Courtie ([1984] AC 463). Here there were clearly two levels of punishment, the disqualifica-tion being either obligatory or discretionary. Which punishment was apt was determined by the purpose for which the specimen was required. When it was to ascertain the ability of the accused to drive, it should be made clear from the summons.

The case was remitted for the justices to reconsider in the light of their power to disqualify in this case being discretionary. Lord Justice Bingham agreed

Solicitors: Wallace & Partners; CPS, Portsmouth.

Reality behind Pipe legend

trainer from sents an ogre-like figure to his recling and jealous rivals as he powers his way relentlessly forward to an almost certain century of winners by early January, a feat never pre-

viously accomplished. The quiet and unassuming reality behind the legend sat at his desk last week, vehemently denying the frequently alleged use of snatch tactics to wrest ammunition from his fellow

'I've never approached anyone else's owners in my life," he said, "All the horses I train have been offered to me. This talk is very upsetting and disappointing. And I certainly wouldn't train horses for oothing as reported. It costs far too

Mind you jealousy is a natural emotion for trainers confrooted by Pipe's triumphant progress as the rampaging Somerset hardes have helped carry Peter Scudamore to the fastest-ever hundred winners by a jockey.

No magic formula hides the

secret of Pipe's success. "He does the job properly," says Chester Barnes, former British table tennis champion and the trainer's right-hand man for

It's mainly down to hard work. If the horses aren't fit to run for their lives, he doesn't send them racing. The only trouble is that he woo't delegate. And in the long run, that's not a good thing."

Energy, imagination, drive and curiosity. Pipe possesses these hallmarks of all top men in full measure. And, as with all trainers, his mind is coostantly working round his

"They're athletes, and they must look like athletes," he says. "It's up to yoo to bring your horse on intelligently and let him enjoy himself. He must be kept motivated and relaxed in his own way."

The escalating scale of Pine's success is attracting a better class of animal to a vard previously noted for its record with hurdlers. The strike rate over fences this season is an

astonishing 57 per cent. Strands Of Gold and Beau Ranger have already played expected of Sabin Du Loir. who makes his eagerlyawaited first appearance over fences at Newton Abbot on

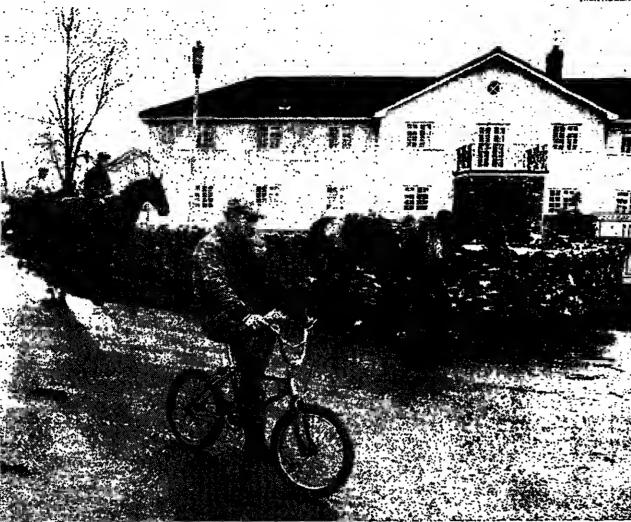
usch De Farges and Stepaside Lord, both recent Haydock winners, are also considered potential Cheltenham material. And Bonanza Boy and Torside are Chepstow bound for the Coral Welsh National on Tuesday.

Of the trainers' hurdlers, the long-striding Chatam has been well supported for the championship. "Only the horse him-self will tell us whether he's up to that class. But he's much stronger this year and we hope that he'll take us to Cheltenham." Chatam will probably make his first appearance of the season in Windsor's New Year's Day Hurdle.

The quick-growing Cupressus trees which line the approach to Pond House

Racing next week MONDAY: Kampton Park, Wetherby, Wincanton, Huntingdon, Wolver-hampton, Newton Abbot, Market Rasen, Sedgefield. TUESDAY: Kempton Park, Chepstow, therby, Wolverhampton. DNESDAY: Folkestone, Newcastle,

THURSDAY: Plumpton, Stratford, FRIDAY: Newbury, Fortwell Park, SATURDAY: Newbury, Leicester,



Action man: Martin Pipe hands out instructions on a portable telephone as he returns from the gallops by trusty bicycle

theMCP1 number plate on the "Roller" peeping out of the garage, give evidence of a surge of recent prosperity, as does the helicopter waiting to take the trainer north and east for further plunder.

The winner-producing factory is based oo 300 acres of clay. "It was practically derelict when we bought it," says Dave Pipe, the trainer's father. Where these offices are now was a little cottage."

Pipe's home, guarding the entrance, is a cream twostorey house with shuttered windows and a balcony overlooking the porch and is built oo a site formerly occupied by pig-stys.

A ceaselessly inquiring his hard-earnt knowledge of his trade, drives Pipe forward. "It's all trial and error," comments Barnes. "He's learnt it all himself. Give him time and he'd learn about

The trainer's wife, Carol, for Christmas. "If a vet tells

By Michael Seely

Continuing good to firm going at Kempton Park over the weekend would increase Peter Scudamore's chances of being

free to take the mount on Bonanza Boy for Martin Pipe in the Coral Welsh National at Chepstow on Tuesday if Celtic

"Mark Perrett is riding

Torside," said the trainer yes-terday. "We are just hoping that Peter will become available for

Bonanza Boy's 20-length de-feat of Broadheath at Newton

Abbot certainly makes the sec-ond favourite look the pick of the weights. "Don't forget that he beat Ballyhane by four lengths last season," Pipe continued. "And Ballyhane cer-tainly franked that form in the SCB"

This year's running promises to provide significant pointers for the future, but everyone is now waiting for a decision about The Thinker, the 1987 Gold

Shot comes out.

Bonanza Boy."

Farm, Nicholashayne, illus-trate the mere 15-year life of Pipe's headquarters. Similarly what it looks like inside the limh in his mind's eye," says

> The trainer's approach is logical "You can't make horses go faster, but you can tune him up to run to the best of his natural ability, just like tuning up a Mini." The up-to-date scientific

equipment includes a forceplate, a device for measuring a a bike. horse's weight distribution, and a modern laboratory where Kate Redgate is coostantly monitoring the horses'

"The laboratory tells us how the engine is," Pipe says. "Our eyes can tell us how the horse looks, but the readings are proof. It tells us what's going on inside. It won't tell you when he's going to win, but mind, ever seeking to add to it'll tell you when he's got no chance.

he says: "The business experishops has been a tremendous has given him a horse's foreleg angle and about the punter's thorough, down to the small-

Chance of Scudamore switch

Cup winner, who is set to carry top weight of 11st.10lb.

Yesterday, Arthur Stephen-son, The Thinker's trainer, was playing cat and mouse with his rivals. "We want to run, but

we're not going to make up our minds until we have to," said

Clare Merrigan, the trainer's secretary. She did however add

that Handy Trick, the Hennessy runner-up, would not go either

to Chepstow or to Wetherby.
The defection of The Thinker

would see a dramatic rise in the weights, as Cavvies Clown will also be an absentee, having been declared for Kempton oo Mon-

day. Both Torside and Aquilifer would be raised 17lb to 11st 7lb. And Bonanza Boy would have to carry 10st 11lb instead of 10

More significantly, Cool Sun, Jenny Pitman's impressive Cheltenham winner, and David Murray-Smitb's improving seven-year-old Outside Edge would then be in the handicap

The sponsors make Aquilifer

friend's progress since a bad fall at Tauntoo put paid to Pipe's amateur riding career after only one winner in a point-to-point

"He broke both legs and he's still got a plate in one of them. Sometimes it hurts so badly that he can't get around without a walking stick. And sometimes the only way he can get round the horses is oo

pe's 92 winners have been gained at a strike rate of 41 per cent. And a level £1 stake oo all 22 runners would have yielded a profit of £33.24. I've got a lot of happy owners this season," he says with a

Here again Barnes draws back the curtain. "In the old every horse himself before Talking about the year spent hand. And if he didn't think it with his bookmaking father, was right, we didn't back it."

"The extraordinary thing is that he wasn't brought up with something, that's not work."
horses. His dad just said to. And for the first and only time ence I got running betting that he wasn't brought up with help. I also learnt about the him, 'you're going to be a in our talk Martin Charles form book, about the owner's trainer'. Everything he does is Progressed and laughed est detail, oo matter how long

their favourite at 7-2. They then

go 4-1 Aquilifer, 8-1 The Thinker, 10-1 Cool Sun and

Torside, and offer 12-1 against

Run And Skip, the 1985 winner, and Cuddy Dale.

Corals have also installed Desert Orchid a prohibitive 9-4

on chance to repeat his 1986 victory in the King George VI

Chase. They offer 7-1 against Charter Party, 8-1 Cavvies Clown, 9-1 Kildimo, and 20-1 Bob Tisdall and Vodkatini.

The 8-1 against Cavvies Clown would be tempting if

there were prospects of rain to ease the going. But Michael Webster, the Kempton clerk of

the course, was cone too hopeful

◆ The Jockey Club has decided

not to hold an inquiry into the disqualification of Hogmanay at

Huntingdon last month for carrying the incorrect weight. The stewards concluded that

tion on the part of anyone involved, be it the owner,

trainer, jockey, valet or clerk of the scales."

Barnes has watched his it takes. He could have turned his hand to anything. If he trained the England football team, they'd win the World A lightning 10-minote tour

of the 106 boxes, the swimming pool, the laboratory, the new covered ride, the hot walker, the indoor lunging ring and the lads' hostel followed our interview. "I'm afraid it's all a bit untidy, the builders have only just moved nt," he said with a wave of

his hands at a hive of activity. The partnership with that equally manic perfectionist, Scudamore, has been an inspiratioo to both meo. They're both the same," says Barnes, "they spend hours oo the telephone talking to each other about the horses."

Pipe has gone oo record describing the jockey as a seriously, Martin used to ride same label be pinned on the workaholic". But should the

"I just enjoy winning and learning about horses," he concluded. "If yoo enjoy Pipe relaxed and laughed.

Michael Seely

Statement on Tote

The Jockey Club yesterday responded to an exclusive report in The Times that racing's ruling body has made moves to take over the running of the Tote. A prepared statement from Portman Square read: "It is confirmed that the Jockey Club, supported by the Horseracing Advisory Council, Racecourse Association, and the Raceborse Owners' Association, has made a submission to Lloyds Mer-chant Bank addressing the issue of the privatization of the Tote.

"The submission proposes a structure within which the Tote may be safeguarded in perpetu-ity to provide a pool betting facility for punters and to protect racing's interests. How-ever, there is no intention of taking over the operation of the Tote, but racing would seek to provide finances for its expansion.
Lloyds Merchant Bank will

be making a report to the Home

Y-O filias: £1,128: 2m) (15 runners)

4-5 Lay Marb, 5-1 Multioch Bred, 6-1 Setter Country. 1.15 BOXING DAY HANDICAP CHASE (\$2,075:

11 PPPS ELVENCORE 21 (V) A J Wilson 7-10-2 S Contay
12 -46F DENELPS 32 P Rodord 7-16-1 P MicLoughth (7)
13 48HY DARTICAN 508 A Ricout 9-10-0 P MicLoughth (7)
14 (P-F COTTRELE 40 O Grocey 5-10-0 Mes C Ellent
15 99 ARRIGEN 13 J Ellen 7-10-0 Mes C Ellent
15 90-6 FIVE CULARTIENS 40 Mrs. A Kright 5-10-0 George Xinight 11-4 Russway Train, 9-2 Counts Flight, 6-1 Brightner.

HUNTINGDON

12.30 ST IVO NOVICES HURDLE (£758: 2m 4f) (16

1.0 PEPYS NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£1,553:

4-5 Hallo Matey, 5-2 Henry Geary Steels, 6-1 others.

1.30 ST IVO NOVICES RACE (£749: 2m 4f) (11)

1 8-14 POWYS PRINCE 30 (B.G) J Glover 5-11-7.

Going: good to soft

-113 FARMERA BOY 23 (CD. #F.O.R. G Saving & 11.3 2 U-11 PROZE ASSET 38 (C.P. P Hoobs 6-11-2 3 Binds 3 -225 SOLAR (Z.DUD 25 (F.D.E) D NOTORON 6-11-3

4 0-44 THE LEGGETT 18 (S) Mrs. J. Parter 5-11-2 A.M. 6-4 Farmies Boy, 9-4 Prize Asset, 3-1 Solar Cloud, 2.45 HARRY DUFOSEE HANDICAP CHARE

1 1/2P DURCE OF MILAN SI (CO.F.C.S) H General 11-11-13 2 P-64 ARCTIC STREAM 31 (CD.F.Q.S) F VINNING 11-1

9-4 Arctic Streem, 3-1 Trout Angler, 9-2 Golden Deliction 3.15 CORAL GOLDEN HANDICAP HARDLE (E2.973: 2m 6f) (14)

Mandarin's selections

1 441 GOLDEN PREEZE 23 (0,5) Mrs J Penan 6-12-0 2 -FPO YEOMAN SMOKEN 16 (Q.S.) J Catlord 7-12-0 E Marphy 3 0994 ON THE TWEST 28 (CD.Q.S.) O Hubbard 6-11-10 — 4 0-60 COOL DISTRICTION 13 C Treating 5-16-12 P Markey (1)

2.30 BOXING DAY HANDICAP CHASE (£2.010: 2m

4 3900 DUNSTALL 10 (D.F.O.S) B Morgan 11-10-8 C Prices (7)
5 0653 PERMANDE 13 (D.F.O.K Store 9-10-5 E Morgan
6 1933 ABENOY 11 (C.F.) M Ryen 9-10-5 E Morgan
7 44-P BROWNES STAR 4 (D.S.) A Turnel 8-10-2 John O'DEE 10 O Hubbard 5-10-0 G Landau
9 3005 STONEDENDE 18 (9) D Wisson 11-10-0 G Landau
10 -029 SOUND O'P MULL 25 (E.P.) D P Bally 6-10-0 J Raine (4)
11 P44P BOUARE-RIQGED 20 (D.F.O.) P Buster 11-10-0 K Buster

3.0 OUSE HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,476: 2m 100yd)

11 500- BRIDE 286 (D.S) P Builer 5-10-3
12 -200 CRYSTAL HAWK 18 M WEIGHSON 4-10-0... M Lynch
13 9-09 SPHING 39 J Jackson 4-10-0
14 9005 DOHTY BABY 19 (CD.F) R Thompson 4-10-0
15 JP-0 BALANCED REALIN 14 T Casery 5-10-6... P Newtoy (7)
16 40-0 SUSSEX CYPRISERS 41 (2) F Jackson 6-10-0...
17 3-0F 776 PAZRICK POX 10 (t) J Scalen 4-10-0... M Parlong 3-1 Zagazig, 7-2 Barrera Lad, 9-2 Foremast, 6-1 others.

SEDGEFIELD Going: good '

12.45 HARDWICK SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£952: 2m 4f) (14 runners) 1 420 CHALINES PET 14 (D.G) J Gillen 6-11-10 ... C Dennis (4) 2 48-1 SOVIGO 25(5) W A Stephenson 7-11-9 MrK Johnson (7) 3 7053 NEW KINGSGROVE 5 (V.D.(I) P Montents 6-11-6 L CYters (7)

0 000 SO GOOD 13 J Johnson 8-10-8 10 000 BN-JESTE 18 J S Wilson 3-10-7 11 POOD MRS NUDDLE 13 R Bert 5-10-7 12 080- CASS AVON 261 A Brown 7-10-7 13 0-36 BAILEYS TOPLINE 23 A Poits 4-10-7 14 -840 BENFIELD MORPETH 84 V Thompson 4-10-7 18 -840 BENFIELD MORPETH 84 V Thompson 4-10-7 7-4 Royloo, 7-2 Mr Steadtast, 5-1 New Kingsgrove.

1.15 ST STEPHEN HANDICAP HURDLE (£1.674:

6 -421 SHLGROVE PLACE 13 (CD.G.S) Mrs S Brandi 8-16-11 7 /05- TREYARRION 150F (0,5) P Montaith 6-10-10

9-4 Shillgrove Place, 3-1 Sawdust Jack, 4-1 Sir Scenty.

.45 GUS CARTER NOVICES CHASE (£1,233: 2m

7 (107)
1 (31)2 UNEX-PLANED 13 (5.5) O Moore 5-11-11 ... 5 3
2 6- ABSHEVIATED 333 R O'Lesty 6-11-7 ... D Byer
3 9504 BATTLE OF WITS 44 (6) T Cauringhan 7-11-7
S Causingles 3 9504 BATTLE OF WILDOW (7)
4 9551 BELON BRIG 7 (G) J Oliver 7-11-7 T Reed
5 0045 DALTON DANSY 26 V Hen 0-11-7 WF S Switers (7)
8 2538 DEREKS DALIGHTER 14 (22,F) Mrs G Reveloy 8-11-7 N Smith (7)

7 S HARBOUR MUSIC 14 V Thompson 8-11-7 6 S4TP HAWARAN VENTURE 5 (F.C) J O'Neir 7-11-7 J Hansett 9 800P JOCASA SUMEET 23 T Contriguen 6-11-7... K Doolen

WOLVERHAMPTON

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MILERRICINGS

METHERS

THE TANKS

9-4 Share A Friend, 7-2 Unex-Plained, 5-1 Fish Quay. 2.15 RENT ROLL CUP (Handicap chase: £1,935: 1 2251 CENTRE ATTRACTION 7 (O.F.O.S) G Richards 9-12-4

2 1995 GOWAN HOUSE 1S (CD,F,G,S) W A Suphermon 6-12-Osk A Costnile (7) 3 4215 BIG ASH 8 (B,D,F,G,S) Jimmy Fitzpecald 6-11-6 4 2113 JODY'S BOY 17 (B,CD,F,G,S) R Swiers 7-11-7 5 13F2 CHIPCHASE T3 (CD,BF,F,G,S) & Wikinson 6-10-7 O -002 ROYAL CRACKER 11 (V.D.5) T BE 7-10-5 7 P.PP HY TAB 16 (D.F.O.3) P Montaid: 11-16-1. T P Wales (7) 6 UONU PERFECT GLEN S1 (CD.F.O) Denys Snith 8-10-1

11-4 Jody's Boy, 7-2 Big Ash, 4-1 Centre Attraction. 245 BRADBURY HANDICAP CHASE (\$1,970; 3m)

1 - JUP MERCY LESS 11 (\$) O Moore 9-11-10. J Calleghen (?)
2 1162 HATSU-GRIE 23 (CD,F,Q,S) R Swiers 7-11-2
Wr 5 Swiers (4)
3 0646 CERSEL 13 (C,Q,S) J Swiers 11-10-13. A Oxiony
4 5854 GOODFELLOW'S FOLLY 26 (CD,G) J Jordon 10-10-10
5 P32P TELEGRAPH BUSH 3? (CD,F,S) O Renisco 11-10-9
PDessis 6 -435 KAMAL SIDDIGI 7 (V.Q.S) P Charlton 6-10-9. J Galen 7 1886 INVISIBLE THIEF 21 (S) W A Supherson 6-10-8 Mr A Control (7) S PASO EDEMBURT 13 Miss A Alddn 10-10-0 T P White (7) 3 PASO EDISHBURT 13 Miss A Alidin 10-10-0 7 P White (7) 0 1-P0 GREAT TARQUEN 47 T Cunningham 11-10-0 S Cunningham (7)

5-2 Hatsu-Girie, 7-2 Kamal Skidick, 9-2 Goodtellow's Folly. 3.15 MORDON NOVICES HURDLE (2880: 2m) (11) 1 -365 JARE'S DELIGHT 11 Jimmy Pizgerald 4-11-5

2 30-5 ROSCOE THE BRAVE 28 S Kettlewei 4-11-5. 5 Startey
3 1-2 SCOTTISH GOLD 82 (S) J 5 Wilson 4-11-5. 5 Startey
4 953 KATY KEYS 7 M/L G Reveloy 4-11-0. IN Smith (7)
8 953 KATY KEYS 7 M/L G Reveloy 4-11-0. IN Hedge (7)
8 MCORPELD LABY 7 Burron 4-11-0. IN Hedge (7)
8 MCORPELD LABY 7 Burron 4-11-0. IN Hedge (7)
9 SIED DUSK K ORMY 4-11-0. IN Revelop (8)
9 SIED STRANGER R Fisher 4-11-0. R Hedge (7)
9 SIED STRANGER R Fisher 4-11-0. R Hedge (7)
9 SIED STRANGER R FISHER 4-11-0. A Orthody
1 SIED STRANGER R FISHER 4-11-0. A Orthody
1 SIED STRANGER R FISHER 4-11-0. A Orthody
1 SIED STRANGER R FISHER 4-11-0. A ORTHOD 9-4 Scottish Gold, 7-2 Jane's Delight, 5-1 Kety Keys.

2.30 OLDBURY INTERMEDIATE HANDICAP

1 6-11 REMEDY THE MALADY 35 (F.Q.5) M Robinson 7-12-0

2 1P-P COMERGATE 12 (S) M Wilsonson 7-11-8 G NoCount
3 +36 RED COLUMBRA 17 (S) W Merra 7-11-2 G NoCount
4 UPU1 RICH MCXCE, 12 (S,3) Mrs M Rhmsd D-11-2 J Bryan
5 1133 LE GRAND MATTRE 15 (D,Q,S) O Roo 7-10-1
5 3-46 CYGNETS BEST 7 J County E 10

Warming to the mud-caked revelry

A series of weekly reports on Britain's racecourses No 17: WINCANTON

Wincanton is without doubt the most blustery track in the West Country, but for sheer sund-caked enjoyment it takes a lot of beating. Warm clothes are essential, not to mention a forgiving liver particularly on Boxing Day when the two-mile chase used to be called the Hangover Handicap.

The title was dropped in 1987, presumably in deference to the Government ban on drinking at Christmas. The race is now the Boxing Day Chase, a purely titular concession which should fool no one. Alcohol is still served. Indeed you could re-search a book about whisky flasks simply by wandering around the paddock.

The facilities at this jumpingonly course used to be sparear and there is still room for improvement. But in 1984 a £200,000 two-storey bar and restaurant suite called the Kingwell Rooms was built in the Mantheret engleens. Members' enclosure. It is fully-carpeted and provides a more n adequate shelter from the

A less formal atmosphere prevails in both the Staibridge, and the Owners & Trainers Bar. To poke your head around the door of the latter is to have a drink immediately put in your

THE GOOD RACECOURSE GUIDE

Since 1966, Wincanton has belonged to Racecourse Hold-ings Trest, i.e. the Jockey Club. The manager and cierk of the course is Ian Renton, who at 30 is the youngest racecourse manager in the country. Though he affects the bespoke country checks and piercing stare of the young Army officer, he could not be more friendly. He is an able successor to Michael Meredith, the army officer he force of the property of the start of the successor to Michael Meredith, who army that he have before the successor to Michael Meredith. who emigrated to Hong Kong at the start of the year.

The catering is done by Parkers of Milborne Port. Their soop and meat pies are whole-some snacks but customers were let down on October 27 when the Tattersalls smack bar ran out of almost everything after the third race. A ten lady pinned the blame on Desert Orchid, whose presence had doubled the mid-week crowd. He is a remarkable horse but he cannot look after

Wincanton is one of Desert Orchid's favourite tracks. He has jumped round so many times he seems to know which fences

second of the three fences in the home straight - the crowd gasped - but the birch gave way like a paint-brush and he galloped on to another victory.

I wonder if his lass, Janice Coyle, is old enough to remember the lardy cake which used to he cannot be the table to be a second in the stable to be a second in the second in the

ing young jockeys could not be imagined. It was served by a very inred by an RTS camera and jolly West Country woman who must have weighed 17 stone. But The viewing at Wincanton is

ROAD TRAVEL: The racecourse

lies on the B3081, close to the A303, the highway to the West Country. From London (110 miles), take the

MS and join the A303 after Basingstoke. Drivers approaching the course from the north or south should use the A357 and A37

RAIL TRAVEL: Inconvenient. The

nate: (INVEL inconvenient, the nearest stations are Gillingham, on the Waterloo line, and Castle Carey, on the Paddington line, but both are eight miles from the course. Taxis are available.

ADMISSION: Members' £8, Tatter-

sale £8, Stiver Ping £3. Accompa-nied children under 16 are admitted

be treated with disdain. In the far side are partly-concealed. Thursdays. The overall standard of the three fences in the tion that you will not be confined southern stables frequently southern stables. to the bar all afternoon, binoculars are recomm

gaspen - sur the burch gave way like a paint-brush and he galloped on to another victory.

I wonder if his lass, Janice Coyle, is old enough to remember the lardy cake which used to be served in the stable lads' canteen. One slice contained more calories than a whole Christmas cake and a surer way to sabotage the careers of aspiring young jockeys could not be

Most of the racing at ALL THE DETAILS

> free. Annual membership 250. PARKING: Free. ORESS RECAMEMENTS: None. ENTERTAINING: The Kingwell Room accommodates 100 guests, while a smaller room fits 35. A marquee can also be hired.

INCURRIES: Ian Renton, manager and clerk of the sourse, The Rececourse, Wincarton, Somerset. Tet: (0953) 32344. BIG-RACE DATES: Mid-Season Chase, Boding Day; Kingwell Hurdle, Jim Ford Challenge Cup, February 23; Badger Beer Chase, Silver Buck Chase, November 9; Terry Biddlecombe Chase, November 25.

Thursdays. The overall stan-dard is high, with all the top southern stables frequently represented. Two key Cheltenrepresented. Two key Cheiten-ham festival trials are run there in February, the Ringwell Hur-dio (in which triple Champion hurdler See You Then broke down last season) and the Jim Ford Challenge Cup for Gold

Boxing Day at Wincanton is quite an occasion and attracts a big crowd, so set out early. You would not believe how bearty everyone is, in view of the day before. If anything the mood as you pass through the gates suggests that the party has only Desert Orchid is due to run at

Kesspiss on Boxing Day and there will be standing-room only in the Stallbridge Bar when he comes under orders on the closed-circuit television. Good lack to the bar staff if he wins his second King George. Rating

DODD One jockey's cap denotes Awful; two, bearable; three, Average; four, Very good; five, Excellent. Martin Trew of Racing Post

1.0 NETHERTON HANDICAP HURDLE (4-Y-O: £1,413: 2m) (19 runners) 5 -294 PRINCEABLE LADY 70 [LIP. 29 N Gay 11-0... Diame Chay (4) 7 -007 THE LAST TURE (4 0.5) Biles A King 11-0... A Webb 6 -022 WEETMARKS WAGON 72 B Methyton 18-73 ... T Wall 9 0702 BEARLEU BAY TO BLOCAG K WINGTON 10-12 M 19-00 BEARLEU BAY TO BLOCAG K WINGTON 10-12 M 19-00 BEARLEU BAY TO BLOCAG K WINGTON 10-0 BEARLEU BAY TO BLOCAG H 19-00 BEAR 14 4575 OWEN 32 8 Seart 10-3 Electery
14 0-OP SOLENT KNOCHT 17 6 Robbison 10-0 SEARCH 17 6 Robbison 10-0 SEARCH 17 6 ROBBIS 10-0 SEARCH 10

7-2 Mubdl, 9-2 Owen, 11-2 The Last Tune. 1.30 DEEPFIELDS NOVICES CHASE (£1,683: 2m) 5) 1 -U10 OLUEBERRY KING 25 (CDJF) A Turnell 5-11-8 G Mar 2 -FUE BUY 14 M Ober 6-10-12 3 63- MONEYMAN 254 (F) J Buttonis 6-10-12 4 -4PP MASTER ATTORNEY 11 O McCain 6-10-12

5 -P00 PALACE YARD 14 (7) K Wington 6-10-12
6 3005 THE BATCHLOR 16 M Cesiol 5-16-12 A CYTAGOR
7 P40 AMETICA 14 T Bulley 6-10-7
8 3340 ANNABERI 4 R Judicio 5-10-7 15-10 Stueberry King, 4-1 Eller Boy, 6-1 Honeyman, 2.0 HARRY BROWN HANDICAP CHASE (24,347: 1 -803 QALA'S MAGE 17 (D.F.G.S) Mrs M Rimel 8-12-0 2 22-4 TRAVEL OWER 12 (D,C) Mrs M Dickness 7-11-11 G McCoart

5 -331 GENERAGE JUPITER 9 (F,CLS) C Tricking 10-10-11

0 -1822 WEIGHT PROBLEM 135 (0.F.S) P Bown 11-10-7 T Wall 7 18-4 SPECIAL VENTURE 28 (0.F.S) O O'Hall 7-10-9 A Webb 8 430P PAN ARCTIC 18 (F.O.S) T Bit 9-40-5. 9 5044 WILLIAM CRIME 18 (0.5) K Balley 7-10-2.

2-1 Augusvogue, 7-2 Travel Over, 4-1 Gembridge Augitet.

5 3-46 CYGNETS SEST 7 J Costolo 5-10-0 Bibecidey 7 373P BATH WONDER 18 (CD,F) R Francis 7-10-0 S J O'Nell 8 2845 LEAVE IT TO BALLY 73 P Boven 8-10-0 T Well 9 2859 SPARTAN NATIVE 8 W Clay 0-10-0 3-1 Rich Mickel, 7-2 Remedy The Malady, Cygnets Best. 3.0 WREKIN NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (\$806: 7 0-89 ACTIA 24 E Owen 7-10-12 5 Cervies
0 0134 PYTCHLEY PRINCE 6 (C) R Hollenhead 5-10-11 9 P0-1 SURVEZ NO! 10 (G) C Allen 4-10-11 3 McCrystal (7)
10 6-34 FRANKTON 6 M Wildrigon 7-10-11 6 McCrystal
11 -105 BICK BENEDICT 10 (B,G) N Geselos 4-10-10 12 - GUR MINERAL DUST 11 (G) Mrs O Jones 5-10-8 R Beacher (7)
13 4800 GOLDER SAVARD 17 C Tripding 7-10-8 J. Shortt
14 5820 ROSSHIT 11 J Costello 4-10-7 E Buckley
15 68-75 BIT OF A CHANCE 32 R Lee 4-10-6 P Denot
17 4866 MOULIGIS 5 J H WISON 6-10-5 R Condit 6-1 Gunner Stream, 7-1 Bick Benedict, Top O' The Great-3.30 WALSALL HANDICAP HUROLE £1,402: 2m) 1 3-46 SPANSSH REEL 32 (CD.F) J Etherris 6-12-1 ... 1) Topo 2 2504 WELL COVERED 8 (F,d) R Holleshed 7-11-12 5 10 LORTANO 17 (D.Q.S) F Lee 8-11-8 Gary Lyons (7)
4 44- CRUDEN SAY 270 (GD.Q.S) P Feligion 8-11-5 S Sechioli
5 31-4 GARDA'S OOLD 12 (D.G.S) R Cickin 5-11-5 Ill June (7)
6 53/0 PSMLLYNE'S PRIDE 12 (D.Q. R Juckes 7-10-13 7 942- CARSEER RAY 226 D Hayon Jones 6-16-11. G BicCourt 5 FIJ SMOKEY GEN 784 (D,F) Mrs N Sharpe 6-10-11 0 -R82 SWET WARRIOR 19 (D,G) D McCain 7-10-0 1, Henryl
10 30F0 JRRISPHEDENCE 12 (D,F) P Bevan 5-10-1 MCCain (7)
11 30F4 TARPECHARIS 48 (BF,F) M Eckiny 3-10-0 7 Will
12 080 TARMAS DAD 5 T Crosp 5-10-0 7 Will
13 SP-9 VELDICHE 20 (D,F) M Sarraclouch 8-10-0 7 Will
14 -890 LINCY KING 46 Mrs J CORD 7-10-0 7 TEPP PRETTY FLY 9 B Proces 8-10-0 R Crosk
5-2 Swift Warrior, 4-1 Jurisprudence, 5-1 Cerver Bay.

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A SECURE SERVICE

The Times on Boxing Day presents an exclusive addition to its full guide to all eight meetings ...A special Early Bird betting offer from William Hill. Extra-value prices for three races will be available only to readers of The Times on Boxing Day. Make sure of your copy of The Times

Desert Orchid can reign supreme

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

After riding work for the second day in succession yesterday, Simon Sherwood reported that he felt fine and that he was virtually certain to AL AL MINER be fit to ride Desert Orchid in Monday's King George VI Rank Chase at Kempton Park The same stands along with five other mounts

Only if he has a pang of doubt after riding out again over the weekend, will he cry off, leaving the way open for Peter Scudamore to deputize oo Desert Orchid. Were that to happen, the

champion jockey would be

only the fourth man to ride the flying grey in 8 race, Colin Brown having partnered him in 44 of his 50 races so far. Only when Brown retired in The state of the s March was Sherwood given the chance, having already made the best of that unexpected opportunity two



Brendan Powell: rides Sir Blake (1.15 Kempton)

tacular at the first attempt. Interestingly, Sherwood has never been beaten on Desert Orchid, an achievement that he shares with Richard Linley, who won on him on the only Feltham Novices' Chase. occasioo that he sat on him

old friend justice, they cannot

would get the trip.

What everyone does know now is that Desert Orchid does stay three miles and more. So with the speed to match that stamina, he should be very hard to beat on Monday when I expect him to join the clite who have won the race twice.

Last time oot, at Sandown, hs looked in breathtaking form, unlike Charter Party and Kildimo, who both finished last on their latest

As far as the Boxing Day banker is concerned, I am totally unrepentant in napping Sir Blake to beat Slalom, Alone Success, Bigsun and Vulgan Warrior in the Buttins

Much that I respect Slalom, five years ago.

If Sherwood is fit to do his Sir Blake did beat him by 3% lengths on similar terms at for the first time. years ago when they won the expect to be given the same Chepstow in February when At Wetherby, where the Sunwood Kempton Boxing Day spec- amount of leeway enjoyed two they first clashed over hurdles, November Handicap winner to oblige.

0.4

years ago when they gave their and that he looked like beating Young Benz can begin his rivals the slip, principally him again at Cheltenham in jumping career well by because no one thought they March until he fell at the last. In going all out for Sir Blake now, I was smitten by the way tween Delius and Oregon he jumped the fences at

> making his chasing debut. The programme can begin with Sherwood getting in the right frame of mind for his by winning the Haven Novices Hurdle oo Cruising Altitude, who made pleasing start to his racing career in this country at Newbury last month after spending his formative days in

Newbury last month when

Stable companion Rebel at Wincanton.

Song can give Mr and Mrs
Christopher Heath further cause for celebration by win
Mab (12,45), wi ning the Novair Wayward Lad Novices' Chase which their other good horse, The West Awake, won 12 months ago. He sports blinkers in public

ices' Hurdle, I am torn be-Trail for the Rowland Meyrick Handicap Chase.

Dehus fell at the last when poised to win his only race this season while Oregon Trail, who is just preferred, looked harn on his seasonal debut.

With six victories to his credit on the course already Hypnosis (1.15) has become something of a standing dish

Another likely winner at the popular Somerset track is Lily Mab (12,45), who could easily be one of five winners on the day for Martin Pipe.

The other four may come a Newtoo Ahbot where Sayfars Lad (12.45), Sahin Du Loir (1.15), Might Move (2.15) and Surwood (3.15) are all fancied

Now 25, Newbury, good: (11-8) 181 4th to Strands Of Gold (10-0) with KELDRAO (11-13) pulled up 67th 21 82yd Hennessy Gold Cup, £29,544, 12 ran). Nov 10, Wincenton, good to firm: (11-10) 51 2nd to Ten Plus (10-9) (3m 11, £4,536, 3

BOXING DAY'S BIG-RACE FIELD

Going: good 2.20 KING GEORGE VI RANK CHASE (Championship race: £37,280: 3m) (6 runners) 401 2123-F1 BOB TISDALL 18 (D,G,S) (K Al-Said) J Edwards 9-11-10 T Morgan 65

403F/5211-5 CHARTER PARTY 23 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 10-11-10 ... R Dunwoody 92

Mauve and yellow check, yellow sleeves
406 14-11R1 VODKATIN 15 (C.F.G.S) (Dick Richardson Racing Ltd) J Gifford 9-11-10 Peter Hobbs 69
Yellow, red chevron, red and yellow striped sleeves, hooped cap BETTING: 4-9 Desert Orchid, 7-1 Charter Party, 8-1 Cavvies Clown, 9-1 Kildimo, 20-1 Bob

1987: NUPSALA 8-11-10 A Pommier (25-1) F Doumen (Fr) 9 ran BOB TISDALL

Mar 17, Chelsonham, soft: (12-0) best CAVVIES CLOWN (12-0) by 61 with KILDING (12-0) behind in 7th in the Gold Cup (3m 21, Chempionethip race, £81,960, 15 ran), 12 ran, 22 ran, 23 ran, 24 ran, 25 ra Dec 10, Lingfield, good: (11-10) best Smart 7ar (11-0) by 114 (Sm. £10,197, 10 Nov 23, Haydock, good to seft; (16-11) fell 13th when 2nd in race won by Bosu, Ranger (11-13) (3m Listed, 29,056, 6 ran). Feb 6, Sandown, heavy: (16-11) beet Blyme 'N' Reason 8 with DESERT ORCHID (12-0) a neck 3rd (3m 118yd, 220,450, 11 ran). **CAVVIES CLOWN**

Dec 3, Sandown, good: (12-0) best Jim Thorpe (10-5) 12 where VODKATINI refused to race (2m 18yd Listed, £8,613, 8 ram. Oct 27, Wincenton, good: (11-8) best Bishops Yam (11-8) by 151 (2m 51, £3,694, 9 ran). Mar 17, Chellenhem, soft: 300 CHARTER PARTY. CHARTER PARTY

Dec 3, Cheostow, soft; (12-0) 27% 5th to
Ten Plus (10-12) (Sm., Listed, 24,347, 5 ram).

Page 10-12 (Sm., Listed, 24,347, 5 ram).

Dec 9, Cheltenham, good; (12-3) just over 71 5th to Bucko (10-4) (3m 11, 27,830, 0 Nov 26, Newbury, good: see CAVVIES Apr 23. Sandown, good to firm; see DESERT ORCHID. Mar 17, Chattenham, soft see CHARTER PARTY.

VODKATINI Dec 10, Cheltenham, good: (11-10) best Harley Street Man (10-0) by 1% (2m, £4,347, 6 ran).

1 -U11 MICK THE BRIEF 16 (Q.S.) J Cossello 6-12-3
2 R445 BROAD STREET 30 A Brown 5-11-4
2 R445 BROAD STREET 30 A Brown 5-11-4
3 9 DEEP CLIFF 11 0 Norton 8-11-4
5 SPL DRY GIN 200 M Chapman 5-11-4
5 SPL DRY GIN 200 M Chapman 5-11-4
5 SPL LYSIMACHUS 30 (S) M Ryan 8-11-4
5 SPL LYSIMACHUS 30 (S) M Ryan 8-11-4
5 U20F HORVAL 7 (F) G Richards 6-11-4
7 U006 THYDILMEN 21 M Bystott 5-11-4
5 O-00 ASTRAL LADY 18 (3.5) Mrs G Dook 7-10-13
6 Marchy (7)

M. Marphy (7)
9 OD- SUVAMARYAL 268 J. Hundell 6-10-13... NON-RUNGER

1 03-5 KAMER 11 (CD.F.C.S.) K Morgen 5-11-18 Date Mickeyer 2 4213 BIG ASH 9 (B.CD.F.C.S.) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-13. — 3 4-11 TRESIDER 8 (CD.C.S.) M W Easterby 6-11-13.

3 4-T1 TRESIDUER IN (CD.)CLS) M W ENDMISY 6-11-13
Gent Lyone (4)
4 -264 VALENTINOS JOY 24 (CD.)F.G.S) G Obtroyd 9-10-13
In Stephens (7)
5 042- TERRYASH 212 (CD.C.S.) M Chapman 9-10-3 J A Harrist
6 832- EVEN DEEPER 233 (3) J Blundell 6-10-0 ... M Brussen
7 PP-0 BERMUDA'S GLEN 28 (D.)F.S.) J Blundell 10-10-0
A Laces (7)

3.15 ACCURATE NOVICES HURDLE (£1,278: 2m)

1/)
1 11 YAMEER 19 (CD,G,S) M W Easterby 4-11-8
3er Lyons (4)

2-5 Nick The Brief, 5-1 Norval, 8-1 Deep Citt, 16-1 Others. 2.45 KERNEL HANDICAP CHASE (21,847: 2m) (7)

KEMPTON PARK

Selections By Mandarin

12.45 Cruising Altitude. 1.15 SIR BLAKE (nap). 1.45 Olympic Times.

2.20 Desert Orchid, 2.50 Rebel Song, 3.20 Mr Gossip.

By Michael Seely

1.15 Sir Blake. 2.20 Desert Orchid. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.20 DESERT ORCHID.

12.45 HAVEN MOVICES HURDLE (Listed race: £4,012: 2m) (12 runners) 101 SF8-411 ANOTHER CORAL 24 (D,G,S) (M Decley) O Nicholson 5-11-7...

101	3F6-611 AMOTHER CORAL 24 (D.G.S) (M Desley) O Nicholson 5-11-7
102	30025-1 BRANDON PRER 9 (F) (G Greenwood) D Essecth 5-11-7
103	54-1 CRUSSING ALTITUDE 30 (D.G) (Mrs C Heath) O Sherwood 6-11-7
104	3-11221 ESPY 19 (D.G) (R E A Bott Ltd) C Brooks 5-11-7
105	9F9-110 MADYNA 38 (BF.F) (E Parker) O Barrone 6-11-5
106	421 BLAND SET 7 (D.G) (J Short) K Morgert 6-11-5
107	4-112 GREENHILS JOY 16 (D.F.S) (I. Authus) M Ryan 5-11-2
108	1-3 REMITTANCE MAN 19 (F) (J Collins) N Henderson 4-11-0
109	3 SOUADRON 828 (R Wright) J Fox 7-11-0
110	9F9ACEWORK 30 (S Burtdge) D Essecth 4-10-0
111	PEACEWORK 30 (S Burtdge) D Essecth 4-10-0
112	PEACEWORK 30 (S Burtdge) D Essecth 4-10-0
113	RESPECTING DATE: 11-4 Engles 4-1 (Greenbills, Lou, 6-1 Imaging, 8-1 J McLaughiin SETTING: 9-4 Cruising Attitude, 11-4 Espy, 4-1 Greenfills Joy, 6-1 Imadyns, 8-1 Island Set, 10-1 Another Coral, 16-1 others.

1967: 88L000 BLUES 5-11-7 P Croucher (7-2) K Belley 14 ran

FORM ANOTHER CORAL got up in the plosing stopes when beeing Blue. Bouton a head at Bangor (2m, solt) last time. BRANDON PIER made a winning reappearance when beating Esha Ness 3I at Ascot (2m 44, good to farm). CRUSSING ALTITUDE made a placeting hundling debut when overcoming inexpensions to beat Latitipour %I at Newbury (2m 180yd, good). ESPY, consistent, was ridden out to beat Bronza.

1.15 BUTLIN'S FELTHAM NOVICES CHASE (Feature race: £10,272 201 1432-11 SLALORI 16 (BLOLS) (Mrs M Russell) M Robbisson 7-11-7 Houses 94
202 3P-11F3 ALORE SUCCESS 17 (CD,F,Q,S) (Shelich Arain Dehleren) M Henderson 5-11-4 J White 89
203 3-11212 BiGSUN 47 (D,SF,F,Q) (J Horn) D Nicholson 7-11-4 R Demreody 6 80
204 41F1-11 SR SLADE 30 (C,Q,S) (Miss J Read) D Edworth 7-11-4 S Powell 94
205 3623-12 VULCAN WARRIOR 23 (D,F) (Mrs M Wilson) S Christien 6-10-11 95
BETTING: 7-4 Shelon, 3-1 Sr Bake, 9-2 Bigsun, 5-1 Alone Success, 6-1 Vulgan Warrior, 1987; TWIN OAKS 7-11-4 P Croucher (9-4) O Murray-Smith 0 ran

FORM SLALON, is an improving young chaser, was pushed out to best Nos. Ha Ganithe 21 at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good): earlier on well to best BIGSUN (7th before off) 1/4 at Nowbury (2m 4f, good): VILLGAN WARRING was SUN is completed and met a useful opponent last.

Notingham last time out (2m 5f, good).

eme when 2 2nd to Cool Sun at Challennem (Sm 14, Selection: SLALOM 1.45 ROYAL GARDEN HOTEL HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,882; 2m) (14

H Device

FORM FLEET COMMANDER was 121 2nd to 5 CREEAGER held on well to best TINAS LAD (3b better of) 20 best to soft) with THE YOMER (2b better of) 20 best in 3rd, BRENT REVERSIDE has not run since thinishing 112nd to Handy Lane at Devon (2m 11, good to soft) in October.

BETTIMO: 3-1 Times Led. 7-2 Olympic Times, 9-2 Fleet Commander, 6-1 Bold Lament, 7-1 The Yomper, 8-1 Heart Of Stone, 16-1 Jazette, 12-1 Star Of A Gunner, 16-1 others.

1807: JERRY LORENZO 6-11-0 1 Shoemark (3-1 fav) P Hedger 15 ran

2.20 KING GEORGE VI RANK CHASE (Championship race: £37,280:

RUNNERS AND RIDERS - SEE ABOVE

2.50 NOVAIR WAYWARD LAD NOVICES CHASE (Listed race: £5,921:

507 SS-2132 CORN MERCHANT 27 (SF,F) (Afrs L. Osborne) R Frost 7-11-4
502 4-U1FD3 HOGMANAY 9 (F) (R Hurst) R Carey 6-11-4
503 34224 SKYGRANGE 9 (F,G) (J Green) J Jenkins 7-11-4
504 185-625 BREAK THE BUILER 26 (H Harpur-Crews) P O'Consor 5-11-0
505 16-492 CHASE THE LIBER 3 (D,F) (D Homby) D Nicholson 6-11-0
506 499-955 GHOFAR 9 (G) (D Tafinst) D Elevarth 6-11-0
507 FF5000/ FERMERT UNITED 515 (D,G,S) (Lady Harris) G Belding 9-11-0
508 9/P0 (REF) IT NEAT 19 (L BOWRIST) L BOWRIST 0-11-0
509 13425P/ POWTS 605 (D,S) (R E A Soft Lis) C Brooks 6-11-0
510 121-22 REBEL SONG 26 (D,C,D,BF,S) (MT C Husth) O Sharwood 6-11-0
511 F10-043 STAR'S DELIGHT 14 (F,S) (F Bert) R Hodges 6-11-0
6 Trailer states Herbert United will not row unless there is rain

BETTING: 11-4 Rebel Song, 100-30 Chase The Line, 4-1 Com Merchent, 6-1 Hogmanay, 8-1 Skygrange, Ghofur, 12-1 others. 1987: THE WEST AWARE 6-11-4 S Sherwood (Evens few) O Sherwood 4 ran

SKYGRANGE (1th better off) 61 4th and GNOFAR (same terms) 51 5th. Should confirm the placings on those terms. Mister Christien over the same course and distance (good) last time out.

NOGMANAY was discunsified after winning at thurning of the form of the finding to draw the correct weight.

CHASE THE LINE finished well when a short head and to Larchwood at Ascot (2m 4f, good to firm) last out with HOGMANAY (1th befor off) 101 3rd

Selection: CHASE THE LINE

3.20 SOUTHCOAST WORLD HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,622: 3m) (10 runners)

BETTING: 3-1 Mr. Goselp, 7-2 Chemist Broker, 4-1 Lypbento, 6-1 Tyred N'Snookerd, 6-7 Smertie Express, 16-1 Wollow Will, 12-1 others. 1967: CHEMIST BROKER I Shoemark (5-2 tan) R Akeburst 11 ran

FORM 1.77HENTO, not the most reliable of performers, but put his best toot forward when beeting Cettic Bob 4I at Cheltenham lest time (2m 44, good).

TAGIO, a winner at Nottingham lest month (2m 64, enough to find find the close fifth to Cheleman MassTER BARN (416 bester off) 3I further back in 4th. May struggle to confirm the form. good to firm) finished a close 8th to Christmas Hoby at Doncaster (2m 4f, good) on latest outing. MR GOSSIP ran on well to win a well-contasted Chapstow handicap (3m, soft) by 4l from Buckskin's Baset

TYRED N'SNOCKERD, in good form at present, ran on to best Oksetse 2i at Townester (2m 5f 29yd) lest time.

Selection: MASTER BARN

			SIS		
NERS 100 Fluinners 8 4 3 9 7 34 15 74 4 22 13 76	Per curit 75.0 33.3 20.6 20.3 18.2 17.1	R Dunwoody S Sherwood B Powell	JOCKEYS Winners 9 10 7 . (Only qualifiers)	Flictes 58 80 58	Pur (

Trainers' preferred races

The following is a list of trainers' Boxing Day preferences where a horse is engaged more than once: Kempton: 12.45 Imadyna; 1.45 Spanish Reel; 2.20 Bob Tisdail, Wetherty: 50 South Sunriss; 2.30 Saskia'o Reprieve: 12.45 Remittance Man; 1.15 Shars Decanton: 3.15 Shelgrove Place, Pondered Bid. Winsenton: 3.15 Smartle Express. Huntingdon: 2.0 Gembridge Jupiter; 3.30 Smokey Gem.

2.0 JOHN HAGGAS MEMORIAL NOVICES CHASE (Listed race: £5,026: 3m 100yd) (7 WETHERBY

Selections By Mandarin

1.00 Young Benz. 1.30 Raise An Argument.

2,30 Great Gander.

Michael Scely's selection: 2.00 SWARDEAN (nap).

Guide to our in-line racecard

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (RF,F,G,S) (Mrs O Robinson) B Hell 12-0

Going: good

1.0 CHRISTMAS NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O; £1,325; 2m) (13 runners)

OCHRISTMAS NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-C; £1,325; 2m) (13 runners)

1 315 GALLOWAY RAIDER 19 (RK,5) (J Blanch) Denys Smith 11-7 Phene © 99

2 FARNCAN SPIRIT 30 (G Tufts) R Wittster 11-0 Reampholic Company of the Company of t

1987: WATERDALE 11-0 P Tuck (4-7 tax) M W Essistby 17 ran

1.30 TOWTON HAND/CAP CHASE (£5,162: 2m 4f 190yd) (5 runners) BETTING: 2-1 Stay On Tracks, 11-4 Raise An Argument, 7-2 Joint Sovereignty, 4-1 Kerenomore, 8-1

1987: VILLERSTOWN 8-11-13 K Jones (6-1) W A Stephenson 0 ran

THE TIMES RACING SERVICE Live commentary



and classified results Call 0898 500 123 Mandarin's Form Guide and rapid results Call 0898 100 123 Calls cost 25p (oil peak) and 38p (standard & peak) per minute inc YA7 1 0-21150 GREEN GORSE 23 (CD,G,S) (S Lycett Green) N Crump 8-11-8 P Herte 20 2 0-31192 GRAND VALUE 9 (F,G) (J Hanson) J Hanson B-11-7 R Beggins 2 3 US2167 CASTLEVENION 13 (F,G,S) (Arts S Bramell) Mrs S Bramell 7-11-3 J Organise 95 4 0P 4533 PARK PRINCE 13 (W A Suphenson) W A Stephenson 7-11-1 A Morrigen 51 5 0030-F2 SOUTH SUMBES 21 (Mrs 7 Teth) 7 Take B-11-1 M Duryer 98 3 56500-1 SWARDEAN 28 (G) (Mrs A Sartio) R Lee 6-11-1 B Doming 9 10 7 5335-15 SHOON WIND 7 (BF,S) (Mrs M Scholey) C Beover 5-11-0 L Wyer 39 BETTRING: 5-2 Swardeen, 7-2 South Survies, 5-1 Castievenson, Shoon Wind, 6-1 Green Gorse, 10-1 Grand Value, 12-1 Park Frince. M Dayer 98

B Dowley 98

L Wyer 98

1967: NAUTICAL JOKE 8-11-6 C Grant (9-1) W A Stephanson 7 ran 2.30 BICKERTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,002: 2m 4f) (8 runners)

33 BICKERTOW HARGAGE HOLLY 18 (D.F.G.S) (R Wood) Mrs G Reveley 7-11-10 P News)
2 F22-53 SURBLA 16 (D.G.S) (Mrs O Armitage) D Lee 7-11-10 B Smith (7)
3 115142/ SP OF ORANGE 614 (C.D.F.G.S) (Mrs R Haggie) Jumpy F32geald 8-10-12 M Dwyer
2 2311-0 TAYLCRHAOE BOY 9 (B.S.) (B Roboon) Damps Smith 5-10-11 A G Smith (7)
5 190-03 GRAJBOY'S BAY 11 (D.F.S) (Mrs S Dimond) D McCain 8-16-11 L Wyer
5 248-002 GREAT GANDER 12 (D.S) (Mrs C Which) M W Ensterby 5-10-5 R Boggen 6
7 280-013 SASGAS REPREVET (V.G.G.S) (Quality Holdings Limited) K Stone 4-10-0 R Falley (4)
8 1643-05 PHSLS PRICE 17 (D.G.) (A Baymen) A Smith 4-10-0 P Harte (4)
Long handlesy: Sasista's Reprieve 9-11, Prits Pride 9-9.
Long handlesy: Sasista's Reprieve 9-11, Prits Pride 9-9. BETTING: 7-2 Great Gander, 4-1 Carlstmas Holly, 11-2 Statia's Reprieve, 7-1 Sumble, Sip Of Orange, iomnade Boy, 12-1 Granny's Bay, 18-1 Philis Pride.

1987: PAT WOLLOW 5-16-7 L Wyer (11-10 tav) M H Easterby 0 ran 3.0 ROWLAND MEYRICK HANDICAP CHASE (Listed race: £10,820: 3m 100yd) (9

1967: YAHOO 6-10-4 T Morgan (11-8 tay) J Edwards 5 ran

3.35 BOXING DAY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,044: 2m) (17 runners) 5 BOARMS DAT NOVICES MANUGAP NUMBER (27,044; 201) (
0032-9 SEX THREAD 44 (3 Turks) R Writisker 5-12-7
130012 BEAU GUEST 13 (Q.F.G) (W Select) J Parkes 6-12-2
005-3 GENERAL THREER 25 (Mrs.) J Francis) W Musson 5-12-0
517-33 MISS RIELSUN 18 (D.F.) (Mrs. V Robern) Mrs. O Reveloy 4-11-12
202-421 SHE GROVE PLACE 13 (D.Q.S.) (Mrs. S Bramall) Mrs. S Stramat 8-11
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2 003 MIST BE MAGIC 12 (Miss J Norman) E Alston 4-10-2
3 000 PALLIEUT DREAMER 18 (J Holland Fox) H Collinguing 4-16-1
4 30-2000 PALLIEUT 11 (Miss L Carr-Windor) C Thomson 4-16-1
0 POSS-80 BATTLE STRIG 13 (Miss S Ward) Miss S Ward 4-10-0
0 00U-POX ANRICA 18 (D Lee) D Lee 5-10-0
1 DOSS-05 JOHN CORRET 8 (J Thompson) D Lee 5-10-0
1 Long handicage Anrica 9-13, John Corbet 9-13. __ L W10 D Wilders . A G Smith (7) ● 98 __ B Smith (7) —

BETTING: 7-2 General Tinker, 5-1 Beau Guest, 6-1 Shilgrove Place, 8-1 Miss Relson, Sik Thread, 16-1 d Your Back, 12-1 Pondered Sid, Four Counties, 14-1 Battle Sting, 16-1 ethers. 1997: THE PAPPARAZI 7-10-0 D Murphy (4-1) B Curtey 17 ran Course specialists

(Coly qualifiers)

JOCKEYS

MARKET RASEN

Going: good to soft (chase course); good (hurdles) 12.45 RISBY SELLING HURDLE (2970; 2m) (22

22 6 SAYNO 16 Mes G Rees 3-10-2___ 9-4 Nautical Balle, 11-4 Respirity Copes, 4-1 Men Of Fun. 1.15 BRUCE CARR MEMORIAL TROPHY CHASE (22,387: 3m) (9)

5-2 South Survise, 7-2 Zeta's Lad, 5-1 Easter Festiv

1.45 KILVINGTON LONG DISTANCE HANDICAP HURDLE (22,040: 2m 4f) (16)

1 p.0 SPECIAL VINTAGE 29 (0,0,0) Jimstry Rizgerold
2 2h-2 JROLY JACK 10 (BF,S) G Richards 4-12-1... H Doughty
3 -000 ROSD MELODY SY (C,0) 6 McLean 5-10-0 R Gently (7)
4 P.05 JAMES NY 26 (0,5) M Cickinson 8-11-0. P Durier
0 20-0 ROSE CONE 20 (B,0,5) Mrs P Sty 6-16-11
6 P210 HARD TO HOLD 10 (F,G) C Alien 5-10-8... Mr A Hambly
7 0101 SASGLA'S REPREVE T1 (Y,0,0,5) K Stone 4-10-4...
0 2061 APPLE WINE 5 (C,F,G,S) D Chapten 11-10-2 (70)
6 S265 SPECSAN SPLENDOUR 10 (2) J Blundel 4-10-1
10 0624 PERSAN SPLENDOUR 10 (2) J Blundel 4-10-4...
M Bremmen

6-4 Yaheeb, 2-1 Lumberjack, 7-2 Merins, 12-1 Chotomski. Mandarin's selections

12 229- DANCING ADRIERAL 318 (S) K Morgen 8-10-0
Dale Microson
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145 Jinxy Jack, 2.15 Might Move, 2.45 Outside Edge, 3.15
Sunwood, Market Researc 12.45 Man Of Son, 1.15 Zeta's Lad,
1.45 Jinxy Jack, 2.15 Nick The Brief, 2.45 Treeidder, 3.15 Merke.

NEWTON ABBOT

12.45 EBF NOVICES HURDLE (£2,530: 2m 150yd) (16 runners) 1 1-21 AUCTION LAW 23 (D.F.G.S) D Berons 4-11-10 P Micholis 2 -111 SAYFAR'S LAD 0 (D.Q) M Pipe 4-11-10... P Scudences 3 ARSTOS J CRI 4-11-0... P Danis (?) 4 004 CORMER PERFORMER 281 R Frost 5-11-0 P Johnson (?) 6- MOUNTAIN TRAIL 284 P Hobbs 6-11-0 O Bradley
P NELSAC 12 D Hem 4-11-0 M Williams
6- PLASTIC SPACEAGE 419 J Old 8-11-0 S Shilleton
08- POP SONG 17 D Ham 4-11-0
1-3 REMITTAINCE MAN 18 (F) N Handerson 4-11-0 M Brantley

6 -043 STAY'S DELIGHT 14 (7,5) R Andges 5-11-0 A Molholised (4)
10 F-2F TJJJCA 76 (5) W Reed 8-11-0 Wr R Greece (7)
11 2022 TWIGHLIGHT MOTH 20 B Pasting 16-11-0 C Evens
12 32P WHIBLERALL 223 J Payres 8-11-0 R Millione
13 3311 HOPE COVE 12 (7,5) D Barros 5-10-16 P Micholis
14 37-8 CHASE THE CLOUDS 18 W Williams 7-10-9

1-2 Sebin Du Loir, 4-1 Longtiver Lady, 6-1 Hope Cove. 1.45 CHRISTMAS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£790: 2m 150vd) (15) 1 2005 CONTEC PRINCE 4 (CD,CLS) B Foresy 8-11-10

7 P-10 CHARLEST (D.Q.S) A Chamberlain 6-10-12 Lorna Visco

5-2 Below Zero, 4-1 Sit in The Dark, Nonsuch Palace. 2.15 THURLESTONE HOTEL HANDICAP HURDLE

9 0-10 GALLOIS BOSDUET 14 (CD,BF,F,S) C Pophem 7-40-0 P Richard - eschards - D Monie

10 4504 BABY BOY 4 (CD.5) T Hatlett 7-10-0. D Mostis
11 -0F0 WHAT'S A GUNEA 17 (C.5) S Devis 4-10-0.
12 04- GETTING PLENTY 487 (CD.F.5) F Gorman 5-10-0 C Cax
13 05-0 IDSON LASS 12 (CD.9.) Physio 15-10-0. R Williams
14 FLEF MASTER MARTIN 18 W Williams 16-10-0 11-4 Hightown Fontens, 7-2 Might Move, 4-1 Billite. .45 LANGSTONE CLIFF HOTEL CHASE (23,949:

3m 2f 100yd) (6) 3 3-41 TEAN CHALLENGE 19 (D,F,G,S) Nrs J Plumin 5-10-5 4 3P24 BROADHEATH 18 (CD,F,G,S) O Burous 11-10-4 0 4451 COOL GROUND 25 (S) N Mitchell 5-10-0 ... N Columna 8 P2-4 NR PEAPOCK 25 (G,S) T Heliott 12-10-0 D Mente

5-4 Outside Edge, 11-4 Team Challenge, 6-1 Secred Peth. 3.15 HIGHER HUMBER NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (22,337: 2m 5i 110yd) (16)

6 \$354 SELF AID 7 J Roberts 5-11-3 7 55-1 JOSIE SMITH 23 (5) R Holder 4-11-0 6 11FD EARL HAMSEL 16 (C,D,F,S) R Prost 7-10-12 8 0322 CANTORIAL 17 (BF) C Pophem 7-10-5 P Johnson
10 040P LIFFEY TRAYEL 27 (3) N Michael 6-10-4
11 -2P3 PONDERED BID 17 (Wards 4-10-1 N WIN
12 04-0 CORSTON SPRINGS 17 D R Tucker 6-10-0
13 P544 RARE BID 23 R Hodges 5-10-0 A Michael Resident
14 3454 TROJAM SONG 17 F Gorman 4-10-0 N WIN
15 040- DUCKHAVEN 288 J Baker 5-10-0 N WIN
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SPORTS BOOK OF THE WEEK

Alletson's day in the sun

Nothing like it had ever been seen or would be seen again. This obscure bottom-ofthe-order batsman became the most notorious athlete in England. For a brief spell he was what he had always wanted to be, a grea

evolution of cricket without acknow ledging the fact that eter may strive all his playing days for just one moment of true glory, knowing that one moment will be enough. When Botham was still in single figures at Millford Junior School, an old man crippled by arthritis and confined most of the time to a wheelchair, died at the age of 79 in a Nottinghamshire illage. He was poor and obscure, but the incident of his death made him an interesting item in the obituary columns of one or two of the more literate newspapers.

These death notices reminded readers of the one day in the old man's life when for an hour or two he took on the lineaments of a superman and then receded back into anonymity, leaving a few thousand spectators who had happened to be present on the right day in the right place to marvel at what they had seen. Not long before the old man died, the cricket historian and commentator John Arlott had come to see him, to discuss the events of that one amazing day, and to put what he learned into the only book devoted to a single innings by one

On the morning of May 20, .1911, a young man hobbled over the shingle on Hove beach and strode into the surf. The sea front was almost deserted. It was the start of a summer whose heat was: to become suhtropical, but on that morning the weather gave oo hint of the climax to come. Low clouds scudded across the sea's face, and a brisk breeze whipped the breakers into milky confusion.

The young man was a perfect physical specimen, just over six feet tall, broad-shouldered and deen-chested, and although in the peak of condition, weighing over 15 stone. As he cut a furrow through the green water, he seemed preoccupied with his right hand, which he kept flexing in mid-stroke. After a few minutes, he hobbled back across the beach, rubbed himself down, threw on his clothes and disappeared into the town. The name of the lone swimmer was Edwin Boaler Alletson, and although he could not possibly have suspected it, that swim was the prelude to the one sensational moment in a long and otherwise unremarkable life. He was to live on for another 52 years, but only oo the day of his swim off a Sussex beach was he ever destined to accomplish something unique. Tomorrow his train would be clattering back to his native Nottingham, his hour of

Alletson was a professional cricketer, a nonentity in a sport enjoying a golden age crammed with dazzling figures who would hardly have spared Alletson a thought. English batting was dominated by the Aristotelean logic of C. B. Fry and the budding classicism of young Jack Hobbs. Sydney Barnes still looked like the greatest bowler of all time, and connoisseurs of slow spin, dismayed by the mysterious evolution of Wilfred Rhodes from a great bowler to a workmanlike bassman, consoled themselves with the curvilinear refinements of Colin Blythe.

Compared to these men, Alletsoo was a hit player, a tailend batsman who drifted in and out of the Notts county side in the years between his debut in 1906 and his retirement eight years later. There were many professionals like him, honest artisans who appeared oo the county grounds of England for a few seasons, gradually faded away and were never heard of agaio until the death notices, which often ended with a phrase like "... in his last years he fell into unfortunate circumstances". It seemed almost certaio that Alletsoo would be numbered among this anonymous army, for at 27 he was already past the age wheo any dramatic improvement in his technique might be wrought. Indeed, it was already five years since Alletson had made one last attempt to turn himself into a cricketer of real distinction. The attempt failed.

Alletson was not the first young man, nor would he he the last, to dream of that succulent slice of cricketing pie in the sky, the fast leg-break, a ball which would turn from leg with the venom of wrist-

Cr	icket Match.	Played at the ter Untimelianskin versus S Seod innings of	hotterchander	Tate (may 18.14.20	. 19 11
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to be the h	d yet at a fast-m ut, because the leg delivered out of the land, real pace is a ble to achieve. Well Alletson began in I the unattainable.	e back almost aware	S's CISARETTES.		

was still troubled by his injured

wrist, and thought that perhaps

contact with sea water might ease

the sprain. But he was careful not

to prolong his swim. Half the

Notis second innings was already over, and he might be required to

bat at any moment. When play

commenced on the last morning,

all went as the experts predicted.

Notts wickets fell at regular inter-

vals. When the seventh man was

out with nearly an hour still to go

to lunch, and with Notts only seven runs ahead, it looked very

much as though the players would

have the afternoon to themselves.

mood was one of cheerful accep-

tance of defeat. Nothing short of a

thunderstorm could save them

now, and already the sun was out

and the weather steadily improv-

ing. The Notts captain. Arthur

Jones, having realized the game

was lost, no longer bothered to

brief his batsmen. Before he went

out to bat Alletson asked him:

"Mr Jones, does it matter what I

do?", to which Jooes replied: "No.

Alletson, I doo't think it matters

what you do". Alletsoo's reply to

this innocent remark was the first

hint that a thunderstorm was

actually coming, although not

quite the conventional kind.

"Oh", Alletson said, "then I'm oot

half going to give Tom Killick

some stick", with which he

emerged from the Hove pavilion

and marched to the wicket carry-

ing a bat weighing only two

pounds three ounces, an absurdly

flimsy weapoo for so huge a man.

manner which he later described

the 50 minutes before lunch,

including two sixes. During this

session, however, two more Notts

himself dropped twice. When the

Alletson started to bat in a

"normal", scoring 47 runs in

In the Notts dressing-room the

Portland's estates in Welbeck, and now, using his father as his wicketkeeper, Alletson spent the winter of 1906-07 practising his new ball in the Duke's orchards. Progress was slow, but Alletsoo found that by turning his body at the moment of delivery and swinging his powerful shoulders through a wide arc, he was occasionally able to produce a fast-medium ball which turned from leg. But five years later, on the morning of the swim at Hove, he still lacked the consistency demanded in a match of any consequence.

Notice it was as a bowler that Alletson aspired to power, not as a batsman, which makes his story doubly remarkable. Reports of the period describe his batting as "orthodox", in the sense that he could play a straight bat in defence. But, although his immense shoulders and a freakish armspan of 78 inches made him a powerful hitter when he happened to connect, his batting could never be effective against bowling of any quality because of his inability to use his feet. He never moved to the pitch of the ball, but stayed rooted to the crease, driving from there when the chance came. Most bowlers could therefore subdue him quite easily by pitching a shade short or a shade wide, Alletson was also a good deep field with a safe pair of hands and a strong accurate throw. And that was all. It was not much on which to base a professional career. A summary of his ability would see him as a tail-end batsman who occasionally hit a spectacular drive, a mediocre bowler in a side already packed with good bowling, and a reliable deep fielder. It is no surprise that in his years with the county he never established a regular place in the side.

hree days before his dip in the sea, the Notts side had arrived at Hove for the annual championship match with Sussex. Doubts about fitness had complicated the process of team selection, so that not 11 but 12 men had travelled down, two of them nursing minor injuries. One was a bowler called Wass, the other Alletson himself, suffering from a sprained wrist. At the last moment Wass was declared unfit to play and Alletson found himself drafted into a side which had been alternatively picking and dropping him for the past six seasons.

Notts, a powerful side, cham-pions in 1907 and boasting at least four England batsmen, won the toss on a genial wicket and started well. Then the Sussex bowler, Killick, took five wickets for 14 runs and Notts were all out for 238. Sussex now piled op 414 in their first innings and took control of the game. By the end of the second day Notts were drifting to certain defeat, and it was clear that the issue would be decided long before the end of the allotted three days. One local newspaper, which had been following the fixture in detail, ended its comments on the eve of the final day with "Tomorrow's play promises to he most interesting", evidently without believing anything of the kind. It

sent no observer to the Hove

Joining the greats: Alletson (right) had neither the classicism of Hobbs nor the greatness of Barnes but, for a day, was the king of cricket ground on May 20, and no further teams went in for lunch, Notts had only one wicket left standing and mention of the match appeared in its columns. The only Press reprehad extended their slender lead to sentatives to witness the closing 84. The game was still lost, and formalities were from The Sussex only a handful of spectators Daily News, The Nottinghamshire bothered to wait for the afternoon Guardian, Cricket and, of course, session. What is a little more the inevitable man from Wisden. surprising is that three of the four On that last morning Alletson

reporters departed, leaving only one official observer to witness the

most extraordinary batting episode in the history of cricket. At this point an exasperating veil falls over events on the Hove ground. The details of play have since been documented, examined, analysed, and discussed with relentless attention to every incident, but as to what, if anything, went on in the pavilion during the lunch interval nobody could be found who remembered. The fact is fundamental to the story of Alletson's great day, because he re-emerged from the pavilion after lunch like a man transformed. No record has survived of what the players were given for lunch, but in view of what was about to happen, nectar and ambrosia seems as good a guess as any. Three minutes after the resumption Alletson drove the four which gave him his half-century, and from this point he did not so much assault the Sussex bowling as enter

a mood of inspired dementia. In no time the game had drifted out of reality into the realms of pure moonshine. Five times Alletson drove Killick's bowling into the middle distance. One of his hammer blows flew right out of the arena, hurtling into the pavilion bar like a shell from a cannon, sending broken glass and cascading whisky all over the premises with Jessopian exuberance. Another straight drive disappeared out of the ground, soaring over the entrance gates into the street, where it was picked up by a small boy, who was later found playing with it down on the beach. A third shot was despatched over the South stand, coming to rest on the roof of a nearby skating rink, a carry of at least 160 yards. Only 13minutes after reaching his 50, Alletson had

completed the first century of his

career, by which time the proceedings on the field no longer resembled a cricket match at all. Play was repeatedly brought to a halt because there was oo ball for the players to play with, Alletson having struck five of them out of

the ground. Bemused officials wandered about the precincts of the pavilion searching for one or another of these lost balls. In the meantime a subtle change had also come over the fielding side. By now the Sussex players had forgotten about winning the match, or even losing it, and could only stand by, witnesses to something they could not believe. Poor Killick, the conqueror of the first innings, had abandoned all hope of getting Alletson out or even stopping him scoring at so phenomenal a rate. All Killick asked was to be allowed to get out of the ground alive. John Gunn, one of the Notts batsmen watching this crazy display, said: "Killick was almost frightened to bowl. I don't think he minded his bowling being hit so much as he was worried Ted might hit one back at

Neither were the fielders much inclined to lend a hand. John Gunn's brother, George, himself a batsman of wayward genius, remembered calling out to Vine, the Sussex deep fielder, "Look out, he'll hit you any minute now", to which Vine replied, "Bugger him. I don't want it". Gunn goes on: The ball fizzed through the fielders as if they had been ghosts. I have never seen another innings like it. One of those drives would

have smashed a man's hand if he had tried to stop it". Having arrived at his hundred, Alletson got down to business in carnest. It was now just half-past two, and as he thrashed the bowling the ball could literally be heard humming past the Sussex outfielders. No person or place on the Hove ground was safe. H. P. Chaplin, the Sussex captain but a spectator that day, described it as the most amazing innings ever. Once he just lay back on his heels and pushed and the ball went through the pavilion clockface".

Reiph, another of the Sussex fieldsmen, observed: "He stood up and hit like a giant. I don't think any man could have played two innings like that and lived". Years later Relph was asked to recall his impressions of Alletson's exhibition. He said: "My chief memory is that shower of cricket balls going over the boundary and the crowd mad with delight. It cost us a match we were winning, but I

don't think anyone minded. It was such an experience to watch it". Understandably, the more im-pressionable members of the audience went slightly hysterical, and could no longer make sense of what their eyes were showing them. A gentleman called C. P. Foley later dedicated part of his autobiography to a lurid description of the innings and, as be strove to give an accurate im-pression, drifted from factual reportage on to the higher planes of literary invention: "Time was wasted in trying to prise the ball out of the new stand into whose soft wood Alletson had driven it; no chisel being available". Perhaps closer to the truth is Foley's observation, "The fieldsmen and umpires had a very anxious halfhour, but by skilful agility managed to avoid contact with the ball, and nobody was killed, or indeed seriously injured".

By 2.55 Alletson had amassed 189 runs and there seemed to be no known way of getting him out. A Notts rout had been transformed into a Sussex massacre. But then Alletson connected with yet another prodigious drive which the fielder C. Smith caught with one foot over the boundary line and his head resting against the grandstand. The rules of cricket define this as an illegal catch, and Alletson knew this well. But he knew also that time was running short and that Notts still had an outside chance of winning the game, so he acknowledged the catch and ran back to the pavilion. When George Gunn ran after him to tell him he was legally not out, he is said to have replied: "It's all reet". Gunn later remarked: "He had had enough".

in 90 minutes Alietson had scored 189, the last 142 of them in only 40 minutes. Nothing like it had ever been seen or would be again. Alleison became the most notorious athlete in England. For a brief spell he was what he had always wanted to be, a great cricketer. And yet, if the hysterical Mr Foley is 10 be believed, what followed was even more outlandish. According to Foley, who saw the whole business as an epic of Attic proportions, Jones, the Notts captain, Iold Alletson that from oow on his place in the side was assured indefinitely on condition that he went out to hit in every match. "But", Foley said, "after hittings as it looks as to be a second to be a secon at Lord's later in the season he retired into his shell and absolutely refused to hit".

The facts are rather less dramatic. In his very next innings Alletson again smashed the ball all over the place, scoring 60 in half an hour against Gloucestershire. But then a change of attitude seemed to set in, and gradually his approach to cricket subsided back to the oorm. But for the moment the entire cricket world was in ferment. A fortnight after the record-breaking innings, Alletson, this obscure bottom-of-the-order bassman unable to command a place in the county side. was invited to play in the official Test trial at Sheffield. He failed, scoring 15 in the first innings and only eight in the second It was the call. eight in the second. It was the only time in his entire cricketing life when he appeared in a first-class match for any other side than

There are many possible explanations for his return to mediocrity, and the most persuasive is that he was still preoccupied with his potential as the bowler of the clusive fast leg-break. Two years later, in 1913, he was ready at last to try his new delivery in a county game, at which poiot fate, which had been so lavish in its prizes that day at Hove, turned sour on him. At first everything went splendidly. Against Kent he won the match with six wickets for 43, and followed up with four for 17 against Derbyshire. The long hours in the orchard at Welbeck were paying dividends at last. And then, in the next match, against Gloucestershire, he bowled only two overs before the umpire, in Alletson's own words, "told me to stop bowling".

never completely forgotten, and remains in the record books to this day as the fastest big innings ever played. The only point left unanswered, the one mystery which Alletson was too inarticulate to explain, is the most vital one of all. What got into him that afternoon? The only explanation he ever offered on the subject was that after lunch, A. O. Jones told me to have a go, and I did. Runs kept

It is an odd and endearing fact about human nature in its relation to cricket that, as Nyren and Cardus well knew, the backward look is always with us. As Botham observed: "Too many people live in the past". There is no question that even as Botham was desiroying the Australians in 1981, there were those who sighed for the lost felicities of Denis Compton. And just as sure that when Compton was rewriting the record books, the older generation was wondering whatever happened to Ranji

umours began to ciring action was not within the letter of the law. He bowled oo more that season. In 1914, against Derbyshire, his centain asked him to how again and once more he was taken off because of the alleged illegality of his action. He never appeared in a first-class match again. At the time of the Derbyshire match he was just 30 years old. In the Great War he served in the Royal Garrison Artillery, and later weot to live at Worksop to work at the Manton colliery. In 1950, crippled by arthritis, he retired reluctantly to a wheelchair. A visitor described him at this time as "still tall, dark and huge, his voice deep, his relish for cricket immense, and his humour good". As to his one day of glory, it was

coming and I cast care aside and hit harder". There is a nice poetic flourish to that last phrase, but it still seems possible that something is missing from the equation. What happened to Edwin Boaler Alletson over lunch in the Hove pavilion on May 20, 1911? Probably nothing at all, but it is irresistibly tempting to speculate whether someone slipped a double brandy into his glass of ale, or whether a wink from the groundsman's daughter had something to do with it. Perhaps a metabolic change in his body, brought about by agencies un-known, and whose effects lasted for only a few hours? A metamorphosis caused by something be ate or drank or saw or heard or thought? Absurd to entertain such romantic notions, and yet why not? When an ordinary man suddenly turns into a giant, no merely rational explanation will

and Jessop. And perhaps also Alletson. The Golden Age is behind us. But then it always was.

This is an extract from A History of Cricket by Benny Green (published by Barrie and Jenkins, £15.95\

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Complete the chies and choose from a day out at the Wimbledon tennis championships, a Test match between England and Australia or the start of the Whitbread round the world yacht race. Travel within the United Kingdom will be arranged, accommodation, where appropriate, provided and meals laid on by Whitbread.

The first correct entry drawn will have priority choice of day out, the second the next pick and the third the remaining day out. All three prizes are for two people. Six runners-up will receive a case of Whitbread White Label

Whitbread has sponsored major sporting events in Britain since the inception in 1957 of racing's Whitbread Gold Cup; the Mackeson Gold Cup followed in 1960 and, in 1961, the company began be entered into.



•BITTER•

sponsoring the Badminton horse trials. In 1989 the fifth Whitbread round the world yacht race and the eleventh Stella Artois tennis championships at Queen's Club are

Send your completed crossword, with your name and address, by January 9, to Jumbo Sports Christmas Crossword, Sports Department, The Times, 1, Pennington Street, London El

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY: Employees (and their relatives) of Times Newspapers Ltd are not eligible for entry. The Sports Editor's decision is final. No correspondence can

Runners-up videos

from the 1988 Olympic Games: Florence Griffith-Joyner, Adrian Moorhouse, Naim Suleymanoglu, Steffi Graf, the British men's bockey team. The highlights from Seoul have been packaged on one video by Virgin Video and 12 runners-ap who submit correct entries in the jumbo vord will each receive a copy of the tape.

"Golden Moments" cap-tures all the memorable performances of 160 nations

I Racetrack livens store

8 He is full of intent down under on the wing (7). 12 Hearts and Hibs are at

home here (9). 14 Zoff, captain of the 1982 World Cup winners (4). 15 Joe Louis beat one a month

16 Even the Danes know this slammin' golf idol (5). 17 Where polo players sometimes do it (10).

18 A player not fully occupied (4-4).

21 Describes Mike Tyson in a hard way (4). 22 A dramatic role for anglers? (4.5.3.3.4).

25 Batsmen race to make it football (11). 26 Olsen - a speed king of Scandinavia, not Spain (3).

27 A school game has been built around it (4). 28 Governing body of Britain's unpaid boxers (3). 29 Malcolm Cooper, for instance, has a good one (3).

Second division

Albion v Stenhsemuir Brechin v E Fife Cowdenbeath v Berwick Dumbarton v Montrose ...

Queen's Park v Arbroath .

torian v Carrick.

SKCL NORTHERM LEAGUE: First division: Billingham Synthonia v Guisborcupt: Chaster-le-Street v Durham
(1.0); Farryhill v Crook: Newcassis BlusSter v Essington; North Shields v
Billingham Town (3.15); South Bank v
Brandon (3.15); Tow Law v Grettra (2.0).

FA CHALLENGE VASE: Third round replays (1.30): Position Victoria v Eastwood Hanley; Boldmers St Michaels

RUGBY UNION

competing in 23 sports for 237 gold medals in the summer Olympics. Lasting 60 minutes, it also includes the spectacular

drug-taking incident.

30 Harris, Greenwood and Atkinson in full (6). 31 A footballer will try do this cleanly at the back of the defence (5).

32 The Open winner always makes one (6). 34 Fatima might carry a spare

36 A spinning captain likes to do this first (3,4). 38 The 1964 Olympic hammer champion who possibly drank milk shakes (4). 39 Sportsmen sometimes slip

one (4). 40 Boxers often make it before a fight (6). 41 Golfers move them ahead of the ball (5).

46 Club together for a code of 48 Barry John, for instance, in uncommunicative mood (11). 52 Touchline supporter (5).

55 John, who ran for gold in Montreal (6). 56 The battling boxer from Senegal who became world hight-heavyweight champion

57 A mate could be a member 80 He had his golden moof one (4).

59 A star man of the grand cow (5). prix track (7). 61 An aural test will put you

65 William Webb Ellis's game 83 The original Jack Dempsey 66 Jackie, former Sheffield Wednesday and England for-

67 A beefy Grand National winner? (3). 68 Joe Payne's record goal

score (3). 69 A Kent and England (8). wicketkeeper before Evans and Knott (4).

71 Peter Bonetti or Bert Williams, for instance (3). 72 Where Jack Johnson lost his title (6). 73 Boxers perhaps happy to be

belted (5,7,7). 76 Letters returned for Brady 77 Bert, who was ko'd by a Larwood bodyline ball (8).

ments over two laps in Mos-

81 Initially, they run greyhound racing (3). on first-name terms with a golf champion (5).

63 It can be raw or shining (6).

82 Michael, who took the world middleweight title from Frank Tate in 1988 (4).

> 84 How a golfer may feel in the sand (7). 85 Lancashire and United are at home here (3,8).

I it takes two packs (5). 2 Miller's new ball partner

3 He has been a king of the billiards world (3,8). 4 Not the mat for a football

team (9). 5 Max Baer, the Livermore Larruper, came from this State

6 He got due praise for his strking role with Brazil in the

7 Britain's last world motor racing champion (4). 8 Chip shop man I will see 50 The leader does it on the Lincoln! (4).

37 It is built to crash, but not in the market (8). 42 Rees, who needed no aid

24 Wrestlers use them (5).

a dive (8).

Leicester job on a plate? (5).

on the golf course (3). 44 This country first hosted the Olympics in 1904 (3). 45 A wing three-quarter does this (4,3,3,4).

47 Miss Barker, of the courts

49 Football studs, for example

track (4,1,4). for a title (12).

9 Sir Gordon's only Derby 51 Forwards like to see them bulge (4,4). 10 A jumping backmarker 52 Bullet in a mob for a former England rugby captain 11 With what to hit back (7,7).

13 All sports competitors 53 The mix that every team strive for it (11). seeks (7,5). 19 They play at Millmoor (9). 54 Houston's ultra-modern 20 It unknots a deadlock (3-5). stadium (9). 22 Specialized instruction (8).

55 A slip chance from Clyde 23 The pick of the officials? 58 Geoff Lewis's winning Derby mount (4,4). 33 Was he haoded the

60 Store a nanny for a motor racing ace (6,5). 35 For those who want to take 62 At least 10 per cent of players have one (5). 64 It is a moving danger to

skiiers (4,5). 68 Graeme Hick must wait until 1991 for one (4,4). 70 This world heavyweight champion won all his 49 fights

74 Where a mountaineer is happiest (2,3). 75 A Notts player with a wide bat? (5).

of mactivity.

As a physical education of-ficer in the Royal Air Force he

With the indoor season now well on its way Pappin offered his services to Scotland particu-larly for the home countries quadrangular tournament in Glasgow on January 21 and 22. But the Scottish Hockey Associ-

Pappin's disappointments. He also fears that he will miss the Champions Trophy tournament in Berlin from June 10 to 18 if the Great Britain Hockey Board decide, as seems most likely, that Britain's representation in

So, there is oothing to which

Pappin's holiday

may be longer than he expected

HOCKEY

By Sydney Friskin

Veryan Pappin, the goalkeeper for Hounslow, Scotland and Great Britain, will be spending the short winter break from hockey in Devon where be was born and raised, appreciating to some extent his enforced period

generally likes to keep going and apart from hockey he has tried his hand at squash rackets, cricket, baseball and volleyball.

that the Scottish riocacy Association cannot afford to fly him there for an event which will require pre-match training nor can he afford to make the trip

himself.
This may not be the end of this event should exclusively be an England team.

ruary 4 when Hounslow resume activities in the Poundstretcher National League, in which they hold third place behind Havant

A stuff test also awaits Hounslow oo February 19 when they play Slough in the quarter-finals of the Nationwide Anglia Cup. In the league match Hounslow had beaten Slough 4-1 but since then Slough have come on strongly. Barber is likely to play for Slough in the cup match and Pappio is looking forward to standing up to him at short

orners.
Indoors, the England under-21 team, strong contenders for a medal in the Junior European Championship at Orense, Spain from January 27 to 29, will have final work-out from January 13 to 15 at the Midshires tournament at Birmingham, tournament at Birmingham, where they will face their cooolerparts from Austria, France and Wales. Some of the best clubs in the United Kingdom, including St Albans, Harborne, Stourport and Firebrands, will also be playing in this tournament.

St Albans, however, will have

St Albans, however, will have and Halliday, who will be playing for England to the HDM

mental attitudes which the au-thor considers essenual for suc-

cess. At the end is a useful set of

Taylor himself has a special corner in Chris Moore's book, Discovering Hockey, in which there are absorbing chapters too

on Kerly, Potter and Charles-worth and interesting accounts

of other leading personalities of

the modern era.

Taylor's essential goals for success

By Sydney Friskin

Ian Taylor, who has just ter-minated a distinguished career as a goalkeeper by winning an Olympic gold medal, has a final word of advice for those wishing to improve their game - keep

His book of instruction, Taylor on Hockey, deals oot only with the pleasures, or otherwise, of goalkeeping but with a whole range of topics connected with the game. Taylor, who set a standard of excellence in techstandard of excellence in tech-nique and equipment, faced the fiercest opposition in 91 appear-ances for England and 80 for Great Britain and has been able to see how the machinery works both for his own side and for the

His prescotation is somewhat unconventional, a greater impact being made, with vivid illustration, of the skills and techniques of some of Taylor's own cootemporaries who have revolutionized the game since the transition to artificial turf. Among these are Stephen Batchelor, Sean Kerly, Richard Dodds, John Potter, Imran Sherwani, all of England and Great Britain, Stefan Blocher and Ekhard Semidt-Opper, both

of West Germany, Richard Charlesworth, of Australia, and Hassan Sardar, of Pakistan. The book deals with equal

emphasis on systems and set

The passing parade of stars of the past begins with Stanley Shoveller and includes the leg-endary Dhyan Chand, of India, who belonged to a different solar system. Apart from portraying

the game's leading personalities the book describes how the game has progressed from re-stricted infancy to flourishing maturity

Written with the co-operation of two members of the Great Britain team, Richard Dodds, the captain, and Paul Barber, the book offers something fresh and exciting appearing as it does so sooo after the gold medal triumph in Seoul.

It covers almost every aspect of the game, the stimulus of competition and the element of challenge, its laws and its administration, and concludes, as most books of its kind do, with a useful stock of records. • Taylor on Hockey by Ian Taylor with David Vear (Queen Anne Press, £9.95); Discovering bat? (5).

78 Devilish footballers from ploys during the game's development, not forgetting the tridge Press, £12.95).

in 1922 (4). 79 The Orchid Man (10).

Hawick v Hartiepool Rovers (2.0) 3.0 unless stated Hawket V reamapoor haves (2.0) ...
Jed-Forest v Gela (2.0) ...
Jed-Forest v Gela (2.0) ...
Kelso v Ahrwick (2.0) ...
Lipool St H v Birkenhead Pk (2.30) ... B and Q Scottish League First division Ctydebank v Raith
Dunfermline v Ayr
Falkirk v Partick
Klimarnock v Meadowbank (2.0) lenelli v Bristol

Maesteg v Aberavon Middlesbrough v Gosforth (1.0) Nottingham v Headingley (2.0) Nuneaton v Birmingham (2.30) Rosslyn Park v Wasps (2.30)

Watsoniens v Portobello FP (2.0) ...
LONDON AND SOUTH EAST. Bulley
Office Equipment Merit Table: Mariow v
Herley. British Car Ascellone Old Seys
Table: Old Merchant Taylors v Old
Haberdschers, Pilaires Middlewax Merit
Table: Ostariey v Harrow. Clob seatches:
Benbury v Envestmen: Bancord v Woodford: Barret v Bishop's Stortford; Bactey v
Vlpo: Buckingham v Towceber; Cambridge v Bodford Wanderners: Centerbury
v Maldstone; Chelmsford v Chinglord;
Chichester v Eastleigh; Cranleigh v
Bognor; Crowborough v Tonbridge:
Dartfordians v Blectheathers; Efrigham
v Reigate and Redfild; Farnham v Andower; Harriow v Hartford; Levant v
Trojens: Haywards Heath v Chipstend;
Hemai Hempatsed v Linton; KCS Old Boys
v Old Freemen; Leighton Buzzard v
Storkwood Park; Latchworth v
Stevenage; Markstone Mustangs v Park

MCEWAN'S INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP House; Norwich v Lowestott; Otd Alleyrians v Wartinghamt; Otd Becohemians v Shirley Wanderwa; Otd Cartabrigiens v Bury St Editunds; Old Cottalens v Otd Watcounthase; Old Crarleighans v Otd Strottelens; Otd Dunetonians v Otd Brootstelens; Otd Paulines v Otd Wirzbledonlans; Otd Paulines v Otd Wirzbledonlans; Osteriley v Harrow; Oxford Old Boys v Chizano; Paraner and Grammarhans v Edites; Purley v Otd Glasgow v South (Old Anniesland, North and Midlands v Edinburgh

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

Kaighley: Headingley Wandarers v
Roundheglens: Hemsworth v Portesfract;
Heaste v Mertst; Hull and ER v Old
Hymeriens; Beley v Bjon; Kendal v
Melrose; Littleborough v Tydeeley;
Manchester v Devenport; Mid Cheshire
College v Olcham; Moortown v Melton
and Norton; New Brighton v Wrescham;
North Ribbleadele v Bradford Salem; Old
Modemians v Heatte, Vandals; Old
Oillegelans v Weet Park Braminope; Old
Rishworthans v Heatt; Pockington v
Thomensiens; Preston Grasshoppera v
Heaton Moor; Byton v Derlingon; Shefield v Watarloo; Skipton v Beldon;
Southport v Weet Park; Sunderland v
Adders; Warrington v Lymrs; Wath-onDearne v Watherby; Wensleydele v
Airebronisns; Wharfedele v Old Brodletans; Wintiby v Guleborough; Wigen v
Leigh; Winnington Park v Macclesflekt;
Warrington Park v Macclesflekt;
Warri

WEST: Beth United v Exmouth: Bonouth v Bodmin; Hayle v Camborne; Lankelly-Fowey v Bodmin Reserves; Newton Abbott v Plymouth Abbon Edma; Pennyn v St Austell; Redruth v Newquaty Hornest; Redruth Albany v St Just; St Ives v Penzance-Newtyn; Saltash v Lielcentharung: Saltash v Liel Loos; St Agnes v Penryn Reserves; St Day v Rossiand; Sidmouth v Craditon; Taunton v Tivarion; Tomes v Torquity

HOCKEY CLUB MATCHES: Bridgnorth v Stafford; Bromagrove v Birmingham Municipal; Challesham v Covernry and North Warwickshire; Finchfield v Woher-hampton: GEC Covertry v Kings Heatin Grantiam v Covernry v Kings Heatin Cugnborough v Santon; North Stafford v Cannock; Notingham v Beaston; Old Matematica v Museum v Beaston; Old c Nottingham v Beaston; Ol lans v Numerous Chon and Wes Werwickshire v Old Simillans; 8 Benbury: West Bridgford v Wombourne v Sutton Coldfield.

SPORT ON TV

GOLP: 88C2: 6.20-7.50 p.m.: Review of the year. GYMMASTICS: C4: 2.16-3.30 p.m. The Kraft International from Alexandra Patace. MAZDA'S EYE ON SPORT: Sky Channa 9.30-10.30 p.m.: Tennik Davis Cup. Goli Kirin Cup. Footbalt: Scotish Lasgue Skileg: from Austria and Japan RALLYING: Sky Channel: 1.30-2.30 p.m.: Preview of Paris to Daker race.

Paul Curran, the Common-wealth Games double road champion, has his last race

professional and joining the Percy Bilton team on January 1. Curren started training a fort-night ago, and believes that his form should give him another holiday victory tomorrow.

The Bilton team will go to a raining camp in Majorca in

CHER

Fylde v Otley (2.0) BOXING DAY FIXTURES

Barclays League First division Southampton v Coventry ottenham v Luton (11.30) Vimbledon v Millwall (12.0)

Jecond division inghton v C Palace (11.30) . Theisea v Ipswich (12.0) fuff v Bradford eicester v Bournemouth (11.30) ...
idham v WBA (12.0)
hrewsbury v Berningham (11.30) ...
toke v Manchester C ...
underland v Barnstey windon v Plymouth

attord v Portsmouth (12.0) hird division tester v Wigen
lester v Wigen
lesterfield v Huddersfield
lingham v Fulhem
linsfield v P Vale (11.30)
tts Co v Sheffield Und eston v Bolton (11.30) .

surth division

Scarborough v York Scunthorpe v Hartlepool Torquay v Stockport (11.30) ... **GM Vauxhall Conference** Aylesbury v Wycombe
Cheltenham v Newport (11,30)
Enfield v Barnet (11,0)
Fisher v Welting (11,30)
Kettering v Boston
Macclesheid v Attrincham
Additional v Suttrincham Maidstone v Sutton Utd Yeovil v Waymouth

SMERNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Lame; Carrick v Basymens; Colerains v Sengor; Linfield v Cirtonville; Newsy v Glanaron; Limited v Citiconside: Newsy v Gleneron: Portadown v Distillery.

NPS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier chisios: Casmerton v South Liverpoot Reservood v Burrow (1.0); Gelensborough v Fricidery (11.15); Getwinsed v Shepshed (2.0); Goole v Worksop (11.0); Horwich v Moncembe; Marine v Southport; Metiock v Bunton; Mossley v Bangor City; Phyl v Whon; Salybridge v Hyde.

SEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Alvacturch v Worcester (11.0); Bedworth v Leicester United (11.0); Edworth v Leicester United (11.0); Constity v Dertond (11.30); Dornhester v Wassrioovse; Dover v Astrond, Farshank v Gosport (11.30); Westicton v Burton (11.0); Reddict v Bronsgrove (11.30); WS Rugby v Corby (11.0); Westictone v Cambridge City.

VALIDUALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Second division south the proper trial(1).

RUGBY UNION CLUB MATCHES

Aberavon v Neath Bath v Clifton _____ Bedford v Old Paulines Bedrord v Maesteg
Bristol v Weston super-Mare
Cardiff v Portypridd
Ebbw Vale v Aberlillory
Fylde v Preston G (2.0)
Gala v Metrose (2.0)
Gala v Metrose (2.0)

Gosforth v Northern (2.15) Hartlepool R v W Hartlepool (2 Hawick v Jed-Forest (2.0) Kendal v Vale of Lune (2.15) ... Kendal v Vale of Lime (2:3)
Lanelli v London Welsh
Litish v Old Mishillians (2:30)
Moriey v Otley (2:15)
Moseley v Coventry
Newport v Newbridge
Northampton v Sarscens
Pontypool v Tredger
Rugby v Nuneaton Rugby v Nuneaton Sale v Broughton Park Selkirk v Kelso (2.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

WEST: Club metiches: Falmouth y Partyn;
Hayle y St Ives; Lauriceston y
Okahampton; Newquey Homets y Chairman's XV; Penzance-Newtyn y Trurs;
Radruth y Carebone; Wellington y
Wivelscombe; Wells y President's XV;
Winscombe y Chedder.

TONES OF LEASURE
STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP:
Cassed of Holi KR (12.30); Featherstone
v Waterfield (11.30); Leeds v Helifax
(11.30); Othern v Saliord; St Helens v
Wilger; Warrington v Widner; Second
division: Barrow v Carlste; Chorley v
Leign; Dowsbury v Batley (11.30); Doncastor v Sheffled (2.16); Huddersfield v
Rundom (3.30); Rochdele v Swincor;
Whitsheven v Worlengton (3.30); York v
Mansfield (12.0).

CRICKET: C4: 5.05-6.00 p.m.: England v Australia in the Women's World Cup Float from Melbourne. rom Melbourne. FBMAL 8CORE: 88C1; 4,50-5.05 p.m. RACING: C4: 12:30-3.15 p.m.: 12:45, 1.15, 1.45, 2:20 and 2:50 races from Kempton Park. STREET HOCKEY: C4: 11-30 a.m.-12.00

CYCLING Curran chases ninth win in ten years By Peter Bryan

omorrow as an amateur. He is competing in an annual Christ mas Day ten miles time trial at Saitburn (Cleveland) which he has won eight times in the last In preparation for his turning

February and has a mid-season target of gaining selection for the Milk Race (May 28 to June 10). Tony Doyle, another double champion, races at Dortmund on Boxing Day and the following afternoon pairs up with West Germany's Didi Thureau for the Cologne "Six", which the latter has won three times. It will be the first occasion that the two have been teamed together, possibly to ensure that Thureau, aged 34, who ends his racing career next month, has the best chance of adding at least one more six-day victory to his

Peter Ball recalls who said what in the world of sport in 1988

In sport, it would be nice if we could recover our reputation and in soccer once again become the gentleman of Europe. Mrs Thatcher's New

I can imagine the likes of Real Madrid and Juventus coming down to Plough Lane to play us. I don't think that they would like it too much. Vinny Jones looking forward to Wimbledon's prospects of qualifying for Europe last

Ardiles was the difference - it was like trying Io tackle dust. Joe Royle after Oldham's 4-2 third-round FA Cup defeat by

Sometimes you have to stamp your authority on a game, but I went a bit too far. Andy Semett, the referee banned for swearing at a schoolboy

I never intended selling my soul to the devil. Elton John deciding not to sell Watford.

The only people who are going to get caught are the stupid ones, or the ones who don't matter. Daley Thompson on the Amateur Athletic Association's inquiry into drug

I don't believe there was only one athlete on drugs at the World Championships in Rome. Carl Lewis, the American sprinter.

saw Carl straight after his 100 metres defeat against Ben Johnson in the World Championships and he was at one of the lowest points of his career. At times like that, if you are not careful, you can let your imagination run away with you. Brendan Foster dismissing Lewis's allegations.

It is the fetishism of the second best which prevails in France. If you go down the Loire Valley you see all those grand castles. They look impressive from the outside with their spectacular walls and fortifications. But they are empty inside. There is nothing behind those impressive facades. This was the story of French rugby: plenty of flourwas a sham. Jacques Fouroux, the French coach, before France v England in Paris.



While the name Manchester United has its advantages the association with football connects basketball with violence and thoggery. Richard Kay, one of consortium taking over the Manchester basketball club when United pulled out.

Have you seen the pitch? It is like the moon's surface. Jackie Hendriks, the West Indies manager, after his side reached 147 for 5 in the fourth Test in Madras.

The wicket was helpful, but I had to bowl and plan. spinner, after taking a Test debut record 16 for 136 in

Both team manager Micky Stewart and Mike Gatting have given us assurances this week that dissent will not occur again. Players cannot behave as they did in Pakistan even if the provocation was immense. Raman Subba Row, TCCB chairman, before the tour of New Zealand.

The Pakistan tour is finished and we want it dead and buried. Peter Lusk, the England tour manager, on arrival in New Zealand.

Pakistan have been cheating us for 37 years. And by us, I mean other countries as well In my country you get 10 to 15 as England. Mike Gatting, then England captain, in Australia two weeks later.

Now we know how Gatting felt. Anonymous England rugby player after England's disallowed try during the 10-9 defeat by France in Paris.

A vulgar display of power and wealth in places where men continue to die of hunger and thirst I. Osservatore Romano. he Vatican official newspaper, c: the Paris-Dakar rally.

You can't make deals with such people. Martina Navracilova, the tennis player, complaining about the or-ganizers of the Australian Open allowing Aboriginal protestors to make their point inside the stadium.

The gold medal — it's something they can't take away from you

Ben Johnson after being asked before the Olympic Games in Seoul whether he would prefer the gold medal or the world record

The New Zealand government cannot stop her coming, but she is not going to be welcome. Her home is South Africa, white South Africans regard her as one of their own. Peter Tapsell, the New Zealand Minister for Sport, who began the latest round of controversy over Zola Budd after her selection for the British team in the world cross-country championships in Auckland. She has abused her flag of

convenience by not living here. She has taken us all for a ride. Ron Pickering, the tele-vision commentator, on Budd. I hope everybody now will accept that I have completely cut my ties with South Africa. I am proud to be a Briton and will do my utmost for Britain. Budd in February.

I've got six CSEs, and this has to be a better opportunity than hoping for a job with the water authority. Martin Charters, aged 16, waiting to hear if he had been accepted on the first YTS cricketing programme.

I know I'm better than most of the people I play in Ramsgate, but I didn't realize I was world class. Richard Bean, video shop owner, on winning the world poker championship. Hey, I carned \$3 million tonight. That's what I fight for.

I'm a professional. If they'd said "do it for free" I wouldn't have shown up. Larry Holmes after his defeat by heavyweight champion Mike Tyson. I'd kick my own brother if necessary. That's what being a

professional is all about. Steve McMahon, the Liverpool and England midfield player. They were like West Ham used to be - all fancy flicks and sweet sherry. Phil

Sproson, a Port Vale defender, after their fourth-round Cup defeat of Tottenham. We don't have to believe the Weish myth that just because players pull on a red shirt they become different animals imbued with magical powers.

rugby manager, before England played Wales at Twickhelp from the secretary than I did. Mike England, the Wales Eddie doesn't fly. He just their place in every discipline newspaper. football manager, after being

I am boiling about what Pirmin does not ski for the happened today and I'm going home to think about my next move. I'm going to sleep oo it. And if I wake up in the morning still thinking of quitting, I'll sleep on it again. And if the feeling remains - then I'll be off. No mucking about. Brian Clough after the Nottingham Forest directors refused him permission to accept the job as part-time manager

of Wales. I am going nowhere. Resignations are for prime ministers and cabinets, and those caught with their trousers down not for me. Clough two days later. I'm not one of nature's headbangers. I find I don't need all that macho maybem before a game. Dean Richards, the England No. 8, on his prematch preparations.

They came to do a job, but at what cost to rugby I just doo't know. They played to slow the game down by whatever means possible. You can call it mesmanship - I think the fashionable word is streetwise. Derrick Grant, the Scotland rugby coach, after England's 9-6 Calcuta Cup victory at Murrayfield.

Anyone connected with the game at whatever level can think back to times in their playing career when the property belonging to others was used, broken or stolen. David Hands, The Times rugby correspondent, on the suspension of Richards and the Scottish flanker, John Jeffrey, after £1,000 of damage was done to the Calcutta Cup after

the post-match dinner. I'm still too upset to think much about what I'm going to do, but I may take up karate. Trevor Harris, the Exeter RFC tighthead prop, on his suspension for 13 months after being sent off for the fifth time.

years for what they were doing in there. It's called mugging. Joedy Gardner. Livingstone's American basketball coach, after heated match with Kingston.

"I've seen a goal scored against Liverpool." "I've seen Liverpool beaten." Liverpool supporters' lapel badges during the club's record 29-game unbeaten start to last season.

the "limestone cowboy", after winning the world darts championship. The people who come to I was thinking of moving out watch us play, who love the team and regard it as part of because my manager advised their lives, would never appreme that I would save about £100,000 a year if I became a ciate Liverpool having a huge balance in the bank. They tax exile, but that was before want every asset we possess to the budget and now there's no reason to leave. Sandy Lyle before defending the Tourthat's what I want, too. Kenny nament Players' Cham-Dalglish, the Liverpool



Olympics in Calgary.

mooey, or to be famous. His

ambition is simply to be

perfect oo every kind of

Biver, Pirmin Zurbriggen's

manager before the Winter

somebody sucked all the mar-

row from his bones and

replaced it with helium. Matt

Peri, an American ski jumper,

on the gold medal winner.

Eddie doesn't fly. He just drops out of the sky. It's not

ski jumpiog. Rob Mc-

Cormack, Calgary ski hill's

This has been a very special

match, and I only hope that

what occurred has not de-

tracted from everyone's enjoy-

ment. From a letter by Chris Broad, the England batsman, in apology for knocking down his wicket after getting out in the Bicentennial Test in

if players cannot behave themselves, they shouldn't be

selected to play for England.

Subba Row on Broad's

I didn't think I was the

marrying type, but people change. Mike Tyson after

marrying Robin Givens in

Don't worry, marriage hasn't

changed this guy. He still

changes the taste in your

mouth quicker than anyone I

know. Rufus "Hurricane"

Hadley, Tyson's sparring

One-day cricket is like fast food. Nobody wants to cook.

They want quick results. But

Test cricket is the real thing.

Viv Richards, the West Indies

captain, after the tour of India.

You don't think I walk around

looking like that all the time,

do you? Imagine what might

happen if I wore that stuff in

Portsmouth, Bob Anderson,

behaviour.

Matti Nykaenen.

chief of competition.

course. He loves to ski. Marc Nelson, the former US Open

Knowing him, nothing at all. still wash the dishes and drive

It's just that the name of my own car. I am a popular Zurbriggen in future will cost player, but people like Greg everyooe rather more. Birer Norman and Seve Ballesteros

on the effect his client's first are regarded as superstars. gold medal would have on They are Hollywood. The

The guy's a bird. It's like a remote controlled one.

US Masters.

What's so great about winning

in Glasgow or Cannes? The

hotels are inferior and the

courses not so good. Larry

champion, getting defensive

A superstar? What's that? I

nearest I'll get to flying a jet is

Sandy Lyle after winning the

Eves to the front, shut up, or

you will be next. Ian Botham

to a passenger protesting about his assault of Adrian Winter

on a flight from Perth for which he was fined £320.

He just happened to be on the

wrong plane at the wrong

time. Botham on Winter.

BEST.

You have to say they've bee

aided by the poorest first

years in football. Bob Paisley

All you Aussies are a bunch of

hicks who don't know the first

thing about cricket. Botham's

I suppose it is fair to say that

the ball has stopped rolling

from the general club point of

view, and the remaining

games will determine its direc-

tion - the ball, that is - both

the rolling one and the foot-

ball. Colin Murphy, the Lin-

The provocation and in-

timidation at Anfield is in-

credible. I can understand

why clubs come away from

here choking on their own vomit and biting their

tongues, knowing they have

been done by the referee.

When you lose it sounds like.

sour grapes, but we got a result

and I'm saying it. Alex Fer-

guson, the Manchester United

manager, after his team's 3-3 draw at Anfield in April.

club's promotion chances.

on Liverpool's run.

farewell to Australia.

n I have seen in all my

about European golf success.

jumper, at the Winter Where would the Olympic Games go if Edwardses took

I'm crazy. They are probably Cormack, Calgary ski hill's far outstrip them in ability yet right. Eddie Edwards, British chief of competition. cheers? Junge Welt, the East German Communist youth

drops out of the sky. It's not and so discredited the sporting His appeal is precisely You might as well talk to my daughter. You'll get more Dalglish carrying his six-week

great earning potential.

the wonder boys of Liverpool?

Why didn't they turn it on

when things started to go against them. But then they

have oever played well against

Every man prefers my shap

Katarina Witt, the East Ger-

man figure skating gold

I've never felt so bad in my

life. I felt like dying because I

had let so many people down

— the people of Liverpool
whom I love. John Aldridge

after his first penalty miss of

We are not panicking. There is

a lot of cricket left on this tour.

Viv Richards after the 3-0

defeat in the one-day inter-

to that of a rab

medal winner.

the season.

Ferguson's radio onslaught. He's a good penalty taker, I'll give him that. As good as any I've seen But I wouldn't have bought him. Bob Paisley on Liverpool's leading scorer, John Aldridge. Dutch football is at its lowest

old daughter and interrupting

ebb for years. Arthur Cox, the Derby County manager. responding angrily to sugges-tions that his chairman, Robert Maxwell, was trying to appoint Johann Cruyff as the chib's technical director.

My love for the sport is still as strong as ever. Grand Prix driving is like making love. When you've tried it once, you always want more. Nigel Mansell at the start of the

It wasn't political pressure or the unfair criticism that made me leave England. I longed for Sunday hunch at home with the family. I even longed for my favourite food, pumpkin. Zola Budd on leaving Britain in May. She has been such a nuisance, but I think we have now seen

the back of her. Sam Ramsamy, of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee, welcoming Budd's departure. I didn't even know it existed, I just kept going. Graeme Hick,

after scoring 405 not out for Worcestershire against Somerset, 19 runs short of A.C. MacLaren's highest first-class score in England England have their best

chance for 10 years to beat the West Indies this summer. Clive Lloyd before the Test

We have not seen a matchwinning performance from a bowler in Test cricket for far too long. We seem unable to bowl sides out twice - hence, we have not won many matches. Peter May analysing the situation at the start of the coln City manager, on his season.

> Albion is one of the few clubs in this country that I would want to manage. Ron Atkin-son, then West Bromwich Albion manager, in January, on being given a two-year contract after a run of four defeats. He left in October to

manage Atletico Madrid.

I'm going nowhere unless City want to sell me. My heart is in

this cinb. Paul Stewart, then of

Stewart joined Tottenham

Hotsour in the summer. He won't be leaving this place until an hour after his contract is up. Willie McFaul then Newcastle manager, on Paul Gascoigne, in February. Gascoigne's contract was due to expire in June next year. He joined Spurs in the close up on steroids, and if it doesn't stop, there'll be a massive lawsuit. Ben Johnson's doctor. Mario Astophan. on Johnson's former coach, Charlie Francis, in June. Test stars in sex orgy! The Sun

Charlie's been dropping sly

innuendoes about Ben juicing

front-page headline on June 8, at the end of the first Test, which broke the story leading to the sacking of Mike Gatting. The selectors emphasized that

they did oot believe the allegations in the newspapers and accepted Gatting's account of what happened. The selectors were concerned, however, that Gatting behaved irresponsibly during a Test match by inviting female company to his room for a drink in the late evening. Selectors' statement removing Gaing from the England captaincy.

If they deny the allegations we will accept their word as well. We do not regard this as a whitewash. Micky Stewart, the England manager. announcing that the four other players suspected of involve-ment in the hotel frolics would be interviewed at Lord's. All denied involvement. In the five nations', they are

good, but on the world platform it's like the New Zealand soccer team taking on Brazil. Wayne Shelford on the Welsh team which lost 52-3 to New

I was humiliated as England's captain. There was division between the backs and for-wards who ended up blaming each other. But as a forward, I say there is no such thing as bad possession. All possession won is good ball. John Orwin, the England captain, on the unsuccessful rugby union tour of Australia.

Smile sweetly as you grind them into the ground. Diane Bailey, the British and Irish Curis Cup golf captain, to her

On days like this you get a definite impression that someone up there likes you. Jack Charlton, the Republic of Ireland manager, after his team's I-0 victory over England in the second to last, no one would be interested. Julian Brand, of the sports marketing agency, European Championship.

I feel embarrassed simply IMG, explaining Edwards's because I am an Englishman it's a terrible state of mind to he in. Our clubs haven't got We are all on trial, including the earthliest chance of getting the selectors. May explaining back into Europe next season. why Gatting had only been appointed for the first two Bert Millichip, the FA Chairman, on the crowd disturbances during the European People should ask where were Championship.

I totally disagree with the pressure coming from home that what happened in the city on Tuesday night is a reason why I should withdraw the us. They are good, but not that good. Lawrie Sanckez. Wimbledon's goalscorer. England team from this competition. We all deplore what has happened but it's totally beyond the power of the FA to control. Millichip after events in Dusseldorf.

England play the game like old-fashiooed geotlemen. Why are you so far behind the rest? Igor Belanov after En-gland's 3-1 defeat by the Soviet Union.

Going out after a week has had oothing to do with bad tactics. bad players or bad spirits only bad finishing. Bobby Robson, the England manager. I can remember some good

Saturdays against the West Indies - the only trouble is that the Thursdays, Fridays, Mondays and Tuesdays were a bit of a disaster. John Emburey, after England enjoyed a successful first day at Lord's under his leadership. I am shy and dull. I can go about unrecognized in London. I would rather be oot known by anybody. It would spoil that if I won Wimbledon. Stefan Edberg before the final.

He won Sod the little man. Sponsor's guest at Wimbledon, asked whether corporate hospitality disadvantaged the ordinary spectator.

age of the county's costs would

les Lever, Lancashire member.

safeguard their positions.

Sponsors are sponsors and if England silence their critics. they become too powerful we The Times headline after the could finish up in a situation one-day victories. where the sponsors are mak-It's not my idea of glasnost. ing the decisions. Chris Martina Navratilova after de-Peaker, the Lancashire CCC treasurer, advising members that paying a higher percentfeat by Natalia Zvereva, of the Soviet Union, in the French

At the milepost I thought "I'm oo the wrong one here". Ray Cochrane after his Derby win When you come as a sponsor you are treated like royalty. I'd recommend it to anyone. When you come as a member on Test match Saturday you Promises, promises are shunted around as some species of sub-human. Dong-Manchester City, in February,

> What hado't been forseen was that when we broke up the television cartel, any loser in that cartel would turn round and try to break up the League. Gordon Taylor, the secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association, on ITV's proposal to buy up rights

Fixing pitches to suit the best bowlers of the home side seems to be the trend these days. I don't mind, but I hope nobody knocks us in the future when we prepare wickets for our guys. Fir Richards after the Old Trathod Tist, which I lest Indies wen. which It'est Indies wen.

We didn't want to go overboard although changes had to be made. Peter May rringing in England's third captain of the series, Chris Cowdrey, as one of six changes.

Programme, Overseas players and Wickets. POW. Peter May analysing

didn't know he was the England captain and he didn't tell me. I'm afraid I don't follow cricket, boxing is my game. Headingley guteman who rejused Cowdrey admission the day before the fourth Test.

He bowls too many wickettaking balls. Micky Stewart on Phil Defreus.

It's a great honour but it will not make any difference about my decision not to be available to tour India this winter. Graham Gooch becoming England's fourth captain of the summer after Cowdrey's

You can't go picking people on sentiment alone. Tony Ward, spokesman for the British Amateur Athletic Board, insisting that Set Coe would have to qualify for the Olympics from the trials.

The days of dear old badminton petting half an hour from Basingstoke Town Hall are dead and gone. John Bramley, ITV head of sport, on. the changes in television coverage being brought by satellite

Why should I buy cricket? Nobody watches it anyway. Greg Dyke, chairman of ITV's

That's life. That's cricket. Frank Bruno after learning that his world title bout had been put off once again ofter Tyson's car crash.

It seems obvious they don't want to play in India. Margaret Alva, Indio's Munister for Sport, ofter England had persuaded Gooch to withdraw from his South African commitment and lead the touring party.



There is this caricature of rogby league players as thick, thuggish and morose. They are far from that. They are good company, intelli gent and with a genuine interest in the game. Ian McCartney MP, forming an all-party rughy league group in the Commons.

Canadian weightlifters: three clean and four jerks. Dressingroom graffito after four Canadians had been found guilty of drug-taking.

From hero to zero io 9.79 seconds. Canadian graffito in athletes' village in Seoul after Ben Johnson's demise. He's guilty because he's guilty. Juan Antonio Samaranch, the

president of the International

Olympics Committee, on Johnson. In the first game she was giving me three points with this careless attitude that had 'I can't win" written all over it. Then I remembered she was British. Wendy Turnbull, the

Australian tennis player, on Clare Wood. We talk of British character and fighting spirit and tend to think it's old hat But that's what sets British kids apart from the rest of the world and Daley Thompson has just given one of the best examples imaginable. Frank Dick, the English athletics coach, on

spite of injury. We were never going to be allowed to wio by fair means. The team have voted in favour of stopping the tour right now. Allan Border, the Australian captain, after the first Test in Pakistan.

Thompson's performance in

I don't blame Gary Lineker for the defeat. Robson after the World Cup qualifying match with Sweden in October. The score was 0-0. Robson also referred to the opposition as Denmark.

Plonker. Headline in The Sun in response to Robson's

In the name of God go. Daily Mirror headline ofter the draw with Sweden.

For the love of Allah go. Daily Mirror headline after the 1-1 draw with Saudi Arabia in November.

I'm off to make some money. Phone me tomorrow. Eric. Hall, John Fashonu's agent. leaving the FA hearing on Fashanu's fracas with Viv Anderson in the Wimbledon

Illustrations by Ged Melling

RUGBY LEAGUE

Castleford

record

is likely to

Richards is unfit so Grant gets chance against Barbarians

against Fiji in June, plays acrum half for Bristol at

Lianelli today but will then

take a month off. "I've played

more rugby this year than at any other time," Harding said.

'It's left me stale and I'm no longer enjoying my game."
Harding, aged 35, has been playing first-class rugby for 15

years; he had to wait until

1985 before winning his first

cap and has always acknowl-

edged, somewhat wryly, that whatever else has come his way since then is a bonus to

the solid enjoyment he derives

from his club rugby with

does in training and, with domestic and business

commitments occupying more time, it is no wonder

that he reaches the end of the

most competitive year English rugby has yet known in need of a break.

If absence makes the heart

grow fonder, then Chris Oti

should receive a rousing wel-

come at Rochampton today.

He makes only his third senior

appearance of the season for

Few work harder than he

ligament problems.

Since Wasps have rested

most of their regular first XV

Park will certainly give On a

Young returns to the Wasps

in September, which hitherto

It will be instructive, too, to

row; he is among those press-

ing for a place at the end of the

prop, Sharp, in whom the Scottish selectors have already

The club programme over Christmas is strongest in

Wales and the North, al-

though Boxing Day brings a

number of traditional derby

matches, among them that between Gloucester and

Lydney, Hannaford, Glouces-

ter's captain, and Tim Smith

their leading points scorer, are away and their places at scrum half and full back go respec-

tively to Gardner and

On Tuesday, Richmond

intertain Harlequins with a

side close to full strength;

Harlequins, however, have a

respectable team absent on holiday or injured and Mullins will lead a XV includ-

ing the Thresher brothers at

full back and lock, Eagle back on the wing and Thomas

paired at centre with

Hardcastle, the promising Durham University player.

● All rugby enthusiasts will

wish to offer sympathy to the

family and friends of Clayton

Flick, the captain and full back

of the Warwickshire second

division club, Coventrians, who died in the Pan Am

aircraft disaster at Lockerbie

taken an interest.

game to date this season.

Dean Richards, the England who captained his country 12 weeks away because of No. 8, will miss Leicester's annual match against the Barbarians on Wednesday. He decided on Thursday evening that it was not even worth giving his injured shoulder a fitness test and his withdrawal gives Grant, a youth-team product, as unexpected opportunity against inter-national opposition.

It will not be, however, against Moriarty: the Swansea and Wales back-row man has a broken nose and is out of the Barbarians XV, who are looking to Scotland for a replacement. Grant has deputized for Richards in Leicester's last four matches, in the continued absence of Povoas, who faces an operation next month because of a long-standing

England's selectors will keep a weather eye on Richards's state of health; he is due to accompany the national squad to Portugal in just under a formight for a five-day training camp while Leicester would doubtiess be happy to see him for their next league match, a difficult away encounter with Gloucester on

Another England player takes a rest after Christmas, by choice: Richard Harding,

Cardiff v Bridgend Eyans, the Oxford Blue,

Llanelli v Bristol

pertners Ring at centre for Cardiff, who will introduce Williams, the Oxford prop, to their Boxing Day side against Pontypridd.

Bridgerd have the bulk of their international continues.

Liantelli Feld a quarter of Davisses, including Jonathan at stand-off, but are without two first-choice props, Bristol are forced by injury to play Jeffrey at full back, with Hull and Hodges

Middlesbro v Gosforth

Middlesbrough, despite a couple of miury queries, hope to be at strength against Gosforth, who have Clark (stand-off). Westgarth (lock) and Moffatt

Glint back

in eyes of

Ringland

Out of action with hamstring

trouble in the left leg since playing for Ulster against Lein-ster in mid-November, Ringland was in optimistic

mood yesterday.

"I have purposely not tried to
rush things," he said. "Hamstrings are funny and rest is
essential. My physical condition

is good and the Kyle Cup is just the kind of game I need before

the Combined Provinces match

against Italy in Cork on January

A lot of people wrote Ringland off as an international

wing when be lost his place to Sexton for the millennium inter-

Ringland refuses to be drawn

on what the future may hold. But the glint is back in the eye of

the best right wing in Ireland when 100 per cent fit. He may not be far short of that fitness cow and his performances over

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS Nottingham v Headingley Nottingham have all but Hartley of their divisional players available. Jenkins moves to centre and Greenwood retains the No. 8

> Rosslyn Park v Wasps Park field a strong side, with Woodhouse and Smith returning at half back, against Wasps who won their league match 39-16. Wasps field Oil and Lozowski in their threequarters, and Pilgrim — a divisional replacement — at full

Sheffield v Waterloo Angel, who has been playing for Pontypool, returns on holiday to the north to play stand-off for Waterloo. Kearns is at serum half but neither Murray, nor Crane, are available in the pack.

Edinburgh make two late changes

By Alan Lorimer

the comparative poplaying field. Boxing Day, which is good news, not only for Ballymena but for Ireland.

Edinburgh, the defending champions, face North and Midlands in a McEwan's interdistrict match at Cupar which should provide the capital side with their third consecutive victory.

Edinburgh have been forced to make two late changes, at scrum half and at hooker, where Julian Scott (neck injury) and replaced respectively by Martin Robertson (Boroughmuir) and Barrie Brown, of Edinburgh

For the city side, Scott's withdrawal means a disruption of the Stewart's-Melville half back partnership. After serving his seven-day suspension imposed by the Scottish Rugby Union, Scott Hastings renews his partnership at centre with the New Zealander, Sean Lineen. Lineen, of course, will be opposite his Boroughmuir centre partner, Brian Edwards, who scored a couple of tries against the Australians and who is a committed tackler. Against an Edinburgh side bristling with talent, however. North's Christman stocking looks destined to contain another wooden spoon. At Old Anniesland, South, who have scored 63 points while back partnership. After serving

Today's rugby is confined to a clash between former pupils of Royal Belfast Academical In-stitution (Instonians) and Meth-odist College (Collegians)

Plenty of snow and no queues
Deergurg) 90 100 good
Good skiling, all pistes open

ipring conditions 65 235 fair

ignes 60 200 Excellent skiling on upper stopes 40 100 got

High slopes remain good

Spring siding conditions

os Excellent skiing 50 120

Good skiing on upper slopes s tee 20 130

Good glacier skiling, windy ber 15 150

SCOTLAND

regions and Lecht: generally dry with I small amounts of cloud on the mains, but Calmgorm could have one to snow showers at Rt. Glencoe and takes; start will be dry and clear. but easing cloud will bring seen or snow to tope and perhaps also to Glenzhed. In attantions, over all the skiling arress.

WITZERLAND

reng Montana

isola 2,000m 20 40

Schladming 10 150 good varied art Good skiing on higher slopes

20 150 fair

Good skiing on glacier 50 100 good hegyy tsir

ingen I Vonderful skiing 50 65 good varied tair

SNOW REPORTS

110 120 good heavy good

fairvaried wom

good

Plenty to enjoy all round
he above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great
tuin, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

good varied fair

crust poor

the treazing level will be meer 2,500ft and the fresh north-west wind will soon decrease. Fremeast main, preciated by abet or snow, will spread north-seel wards tonight, followed by mid and mainly dry westher tenterory. Monday will be windy and showery, most of the showers in the west and surring to snow.

• Information supplied by the Scottish Mesoporological Office.

Conditions Runs to sta O/Pista resort

fina

tair 1

Wasps against Rosslyn Park, hoping to convince himself as well as a multitude of interested parties that an injured knee can stand the strain after

position. Huntsman returns for. Headingley, who have Joyce and Kennell on the wings.

Trevor Ringland is back on the Ballymena right wing for the Jack Kyle Cup Match against Dungannon at Eaton Park on Boxing Day which is coal back as his inside partner, and outside him the Kelso under-21

cap, Marshall Wright. Teams at Cupar Teams at Cuper
North And MDLANDS: H Murrey
(Heriot's FP): 8 Ireland (String Co), 8
Edwards (Boroughmuir), J Thomson
(Kirkoaldy), M Coose (Durtermiline); C
MacCingor (Cordonians), M Allegham
(Heriot's FP); G Mactenzie (Highlend), M
Soott (Durtermine), M Scobble (Blasgow
Asads), S self (Highlend, capd.) Hamida
(Howe of File), J Bygoe (Heriot's FP), H
Edwards (Boroughmuir), D Michrer (Edinburgh Acads).

Edwards (Boroughmuir), D Mchrer (Edin-burph Acads).
EDNASURGH: a Domplas (Boroughmuir): P Steven (Heriot's FP). A Heatings (Wassoniams), S Limean (Boroughmuir), the Debusk (Boroughmuir): D Wyllie (Stew-art's-Melville). M Robertson (Boroughmuir): D Sole (Edinburgh Acads). B Brown (Edinburgh Acads). J Millio (Heriot's FP, capt), J Price (Boroughmuir). J Richardson (Edinburgh Acads). J Calder (Stewart's-Melville). K Parfecty (Heriot's FP), F Calder (Stewart's-Melville).

YAC	нт	ING
170		

Favourite set for treble in 630-mile race

Sydney (Renter) — The giant Australian maxi, Windward Passage II, tries for line honours, first on corrected time and breaking the race record in the Sydney-to-Hobart race, which

starts on Boxing Day.

Its owner and skipper, Rod
Muir, a Sydney businessman,
has spent US\$2.5 million on the 24.3-metre yacht whose performances since its launch in May have made it odds-on favourite. Windward Passage II beat the world's best maxis in the Kenwood Cup off Hawaii in August and this week became the first yacht to win all three races in the Ocean Racing Championships off Sydney on line honours and corrected time.

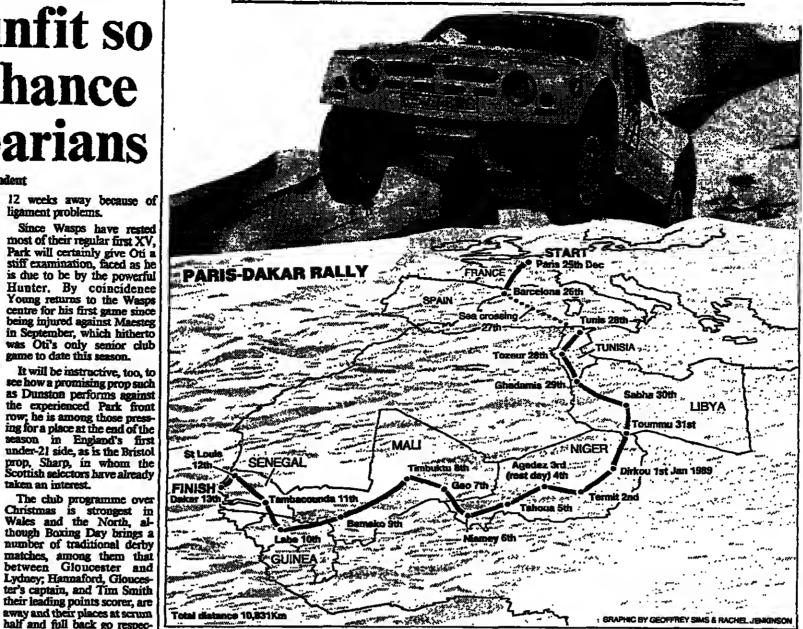
Muir, beaten by only 21

minutes for line honours in the old Windward Passage II in 1986, has his sights on the treble. For an Australian boat to do that in the bicentennial

year will be fantastic." Weather forecasts indicate that the big yachts among the 124-yacht fleet have a good chance of beating the race record of two days and 14 hours set by 1975 over the 630-nantical mile

Much interest will centre on the performance of Veter, a 13.6-metre boat from Vladivostock, the first Soviet yacht to compete in a western ocean race. Its crew, struggling to get used to local conditions, have vowed to finish in the first

Safety-first start for the annual Paris-Dakar Rally



Amateurs and money-men with dreams of the desert

The Pope likened the 1988 Paris-Dakar Rally to "Barnum selling his circus to industry and commerce." Twelve months on, a revamped Paris-Dakar starts on Christmas Day - this time morally more self-conscious and reputedly safer.

Since the first Paris-Dakar was held in 1978, 26 competitors and spectators have perished, including six a year ago. The organizers were accused of bowing to the wishes of the multi-national sponsors and car manufacturers by making the event as punishing and spectacular as humanly possible for the benefit of the cameras.

A third of the field was forced out on the first day in the Algerian desert. The big-buck entries received the exposure they desired, but the amateurs who form the backbone of the Paris-Dakar were discarded in the process.

Now the organizers (under considerable pressure from the International Motorsport Federation, the public and the media) have promised to make the 18-day rally the most sporting yet.

Regardless of safety or sportsmanship until the 300hp supercars from the stables of Peugeot, Mitsubishi and Range

British enthusiasts are unlikely to taste victory

Rover are banned in 1990, the chances of a private entry crossing the finish line on Dakar beach in first place are remote.

For the likes of Ted Toleman and Barry Lee in their TG89 Enduro or Tom McGuigan in his Britland Team Range Rover, however wild their dreams of winning success will be just completing the route - no mean task in itself. The Toleman team, entering their third Paris-Dakar, has yet to stay in the running past the first week and its efforts since 1987 have cost a million pounds.

In addition to Toleman, the Britland team of Tom McGuigan and John Beard a couple of off-road enthusiasts from south London - have entered two lightweight Range Rovers in the class for near-standard vehicles with "the intention of getting at least one of them to Dakar", according to McGuigan.

The time-consuming intensity of the team's two-year project, at a cost of over £40,000, has meant that McGuigan, a plumber from Sydenham, has "not touched a piece of pipe since 1987." Only 48 hours before the team was due to leave for Paris, their second vehicle was still having the finishing touches put to

The third British entry in the rally is the Suffolk pair, Dick Partridge, a garage owner, and Andy Davey. Partridge

Federation (IAAF), to resign from his position as president of

the Italian athletics federation

Corriere dello Sport said that the CONI executive was due to meet on January 2, and it will be

expected in consider the results of a commission of inquiry into

relations between the Italian

by January 10.

entered the rally last year in an overweight Isuzu Trooper, but has learnt this year to lighten his load considerably if the car is to have any chance of even reaching Libya on Day Two in the desert.

By way of contrast, with a budget of \$4 million (about £2.2 million), it is hardly surprising that Pengeot, the former world rally champions, have won both "Dakars" they have entered. Driven by the best pilots, like Ari Vatanen and Jacky Ickx, pampered by some of the best rally mechanics and managed by Jean Todt, the Pioneer Pengeot 405s and 205s are sure to fill the leader board all the way through Tunisia, Libya, Niger, Mali and Guinea to Senegal.

The team even employs its own specialist doctor, Jean Duby, who saved Vatanen's life after a crash in Argentina in 1985 and is on call 24 hours a day during the Paris-Dakar.

On his comeback to rallying from his crash in Argentina, Vatanen won the 1987 Paris-Dakar in style and would have repeated the feat in 1988 if his Peugeot had not been stolen from a car park in Mali. Vatanen was excluded from the rally after the theft of his

£200,000 car, which was later returned. This will be Vatanen's third, and probably last, Paris-Dakar Rally. Peugeot will also treat the event as their swansong in major rallying before switching to the world sports-prototype

For the first time, the rally will avoid Algeria, the scene of recent street fighting, and pass through Tunisia and

Vatanen's old friend and compatriot, Juha Kankkunen - who inherited first place from Vatanen after his disqualification in 1988 - will not defend his title, choosing to stay in Scandinavia for the Swedish Rally. Ignoring the unpredictable natural challenges of the desert and the light-fingeredness of spectators, Vatanen has little to worry about in terms of challenge for supremacy within the Peugeot team.

His team-mates, Guy Frequelin and Jacky Ickx, are as likely to snatch the lead from Vatanen as any Mitsubishi or Range Rover driver, but, with luck on his side, Vatanen and his navigator, Bruno Berglund, will be hard to beat.

When Vatanen won the Paris-Dakar in 1987, it was thanks to Andrew Cowan, the veteran rally driver from Scotland. Cowan, the senior driver in the Nikon Mitsubishi team, sent a message to one of the Finn's colleagues that Vatanen had run out of spare tyres and had picked up a puncture on the last day of the rally. Vatanen is still indebted to Cowan and

dedicated a chapter of his new book. Every Second Counts, to the Scot.

heartwarming," Vatanen wrote. "It is thanks to this sort of thing that the Paris-Dakar is such a unique adventure." Cowan received a case of Mouton Rothschild from Jean Todt as a thank-

aged 52, will head the Cowan. Mitsubishi team again this year and has the best chance of a win of any British driver. The Berwickshire farmer, who coincidentally was Vatanen's team manager on the RAC Rally, has entered the past seven events - finishing as high as second in 1985.

Patrick Tambay, the former Grand Prix driver, who was third in the 1988 rally, has joined Mitsubishi in what is their most important motorsport public-

relations exercise of the year. In spite of bad publicity from the six deaths in 1988, the rally still attracts

Calls for a return to the race's amateur origins

sponsors and motor manufacturers like

bees to a honeypot, Tambay says. "Also sponsors are afraid of bad publicity, the demand for exposure is so great that teams would even sell the space on the chair legs I am sitting on."

Not all sponsors are so convinced at the cost effectiveness of the world's harshest rally. Duncan Lee, the director of sponsorship and special events at RJ Reynolds Tobacco International whose Camel brand sponsored teams in 1987 and 1988 - decided to pull out this time. "Basically the desert doesn't fit the Camel image and it costs over a million dollars to do the Paris-Dakar - it doesn't justify itself with the coverage basically limited to France and Spain," he says.

The organizers of the rally know that the event starting tomorrow is crucial to its future. There are enough chances for it to succeed, with a new route, major entries, a sponsor and a huge public. Improved safety and an attempt to slow down the cars through vulnerable villages will belp to lower the risk of death on the rally, and with the return to less powerful vehicles in 1990 the rally will complete a 180-degree turn towards its

origins as an amateur jaunt to Dakar.
"Unless the rally does change direction," Cowan warns, "the Paris-Dakar is on the slippery slope. The raily could go on forever - the local people and governments welcome us because there is a lot of money spent during the event - but at the moment it is a full-blooded competition. If it returns to being an adventure then that slippery slope might not happen,"

By Keith Macklin

survive Derby matches dominate a holiday fixture list which will enable rugby league players to share with their footballing counterparts the rare luxury of a weekend off and only one tough fixture over the Christmas

Boxing Day, as ever, brings a host of matches between local rivals, with a promise of keenly competitive games and bumper gates. Yorkshire's matches in the first division have morning kick-offs, while the games west of the Pennines stick to the traditional afternoon starts. traditional afternoon starts.

The league leaders,

Castleford, have a golden opportunity to maintain their unbeaten record and send their tinocates record and send their supporters home to a happy festive lunch. They entertain Hall Kingston Rovers, who are still struggling to put together both a settled side and a degree of form.

Two of the struggling sides in the division, Featherstone Rovers and Wakefield Trinky, meet at Post Office Road and little seasonal goodwill can be expected here, with both these expected here, with both these teams desperate for survival.

The other morning local derby is the West Riding battle between Leeds and Halifax at Headingley. Normally this would be a stern contest but while Leeds are riding high, Halifax are having a disestrous season at the bottom of the table and there can surely be only one. and there can surely be only one winner of this game.

On the Lancashire side the big game is the traditional one which annually packs Knowsky Road — St Heleas battling it mut with their age-old rivals, Wigan. Both sides have injury problems, with Fieldhouse back on the Saints' injury list, but both have strength in depth and this has the making of another memorable encounter before a five-figure attendance.

Oldham, who are showing rapid signs of improvement following the arrival of Tooy Barrow as coach, should beat Salford, who are beginning to On the Lancashire side the big

Salford, who are beginning to stumble after their early

promise.
At Wilderspool, Warrington and Widnes renew traditional Christmas rivalries and it will be hoped that the battles do not extend to the terraces, as they have done during the last two meetings between the sides. Widnes are in third place and Warrington in the bottom half of the table, but in these sort of fixtures form counts for nothing and it would be no real surprise were Warrington to win.

There are more derby games in the second division, with the top club, Leigh, visiting Chorley Berongh with every hope of recording another big victory. Barrow, who are in second place, entertain Cartisle in a Cumbrian clash. Bramley, the most improved side in the division trust wait until There. division, must wait until Tues-day to play their home game with Hunslet.

David Watkinson, the Hull Kingston Rovers' hooker and former Great Britain captain, is one of seven players suspended by the Rugby League disci-plinary committee following redismissals. Watkinson Paul Frazer (Runcorn) and Frank Cassidy (Swinton) have each been banned for three games. Two-match suspensions have been imposed on Alan Shillito (York), Gary Kendall (Barrow), Andy Dannatt (Hull) and Shaun Devine (St Helens).

FOOTBALL Rough takes step down

the division Alan Rough, the former Scot-land goalkeeper, has moved from Celtie for a nominal fee to be player-coach at Hamilton Academical, the bottom club in

the premier division. Another on the move is the Rochdale midfield player. Shaun Reid, who signed for York City yesterday. And the Chesterfield manager, Paul Hart, also completed a signing Hart, also completed a signing yesterday, recruiting Adrian Shaw, a midfield player with York. Meanwhile, Port Vale, the third division promotion candidates, have signed Paul Millar, a forward, from Portadown.

a full-blooded to being an ry slope might stope might

Nebiolo is asked to resign

Oilers pin their hopes on running strategy By Robert Kirley

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

When the Cleveland Browns beat the Houston Oilers 28-23 on Sunday, both clubs completed the regular season of the the National Football League with records of 10 wins and six

defeats.

They will face each other today in the American Football Conference (AFC) wild-card play-off, the first round of the Super Bowl tournament. In the National Football Conference wild-card game, the Minesota Villear will play her to the lost of the lo Vikings will play host to the Los Angeles Rams on Boxing Day. The winners will advance to the conference semi-finals next

Houston have not lost successive games in 13 months. The Oilers hope to run with the football against the Browns in chilly Cleveland. Rozier sur-passed the 1,000-yard rushing mark for the season last week

mark for the season hast week but finished with only 17 yards on 10 carries in the game. Houston were limited to 37 oet rushing yards. If Kosar, the first-choice quarterback of the Browns, is unable to play because of a knee injury, Strock will be ready. Last week the 15-year veteran over-came three first-half intercep-tions to lead the cinb.

In the NFC wild-card game, Los Angeles appear to be on the rise. The Rams lost all four of the games they played in November, putting their playoff chances in doubt. However, they ended the regular season with three consecutive victories, including a 23-3 win against the NFC Central champions, the Chicago Bears, and a 38-16 win over the NFC West winners, the San Francisco 49ers. The Rams yielded a total of 26 points in Minnesota lost to the Green

Bay Packers, holders of the league's second-worst record, on the penultimate weekend of the regular season and won 28-27 to the season finale on Monday against a Chicago team that had nothing at stake.

Los Angeles have played seven play-off games in cold-weather cities since 1967 and lost all of them. However, the game on Monday will be played indoors, in the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome.

• Wayne Fontes, aged 48, the interim couch of the Detroit Lions for the final five games of the season, signed a three-year

the call to resign, CONI will go ahead autonomously and nomi-nate a special commissioner, in the person of its own president. Arrigo Gattai."

of the National Council, Nebiolo must resign vol-untarily," the newspaper

reported.
"If Nebiolo does not accept

ATHLETICS

FOR THE RECORD BASKETBALL

Rome (Renter) – Corriere dello
Sport, the Italian sports newspaper, reported yesterday that the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) has ordered Primo report will be submitted to Nebiolo, the president of the International Amateur Athletic II, the date of the next meeting of the Netional Council.

NATIONAL ABBOCIATION (NBA): New York Knicks St. Detroit Pistons St. Houston Rockets 125, Los Angeles Citipers 109; Phoenst Suns 126; Detroit Muggata 175; Portland Ynablezses 117; Golden State Warrors 109. EUROPEAM CALISC GUP: Camber-Sast group, Ward series: Yugoplanifus 86, Hantuc Cen Booch (Neth) 7th Scavolid Peero (1) 90, Limbges 84; Maccatal Tel Aviv 57, Aris Salorid 77.

PARLISH SCHOOLS COUNTY MATCHES: Mitte Under-19 Tropby: Notinghemsin's 2, Lincohatins D, Surjoid 2, Machines D; Warwickstrip D, West McGentis C, Lancachine 1, Merseyste 3, TSB Under-17 Tropby: Notinghemsin's 5, Lincohatins 1, 8453 Trepty: Buckinghamehire 1, Sursy 2. ENGLISK SCHOOLS TROPHY: Fearth round: Wign 0, Sectord 1.

CLUB CALL CUP: Third mand: Parsonn 5.

FACUP: Second round, third replay: Orietal Cay 1, Aldershot B (Bristol City away to Hartlepool Unbed). Hartispool United.

ARGENTRIAN LEAGUE San Martin de Tracuran I. Deportivo Manayur II: Argentinos Juriota 3. Taliente de Condole II: Disportivo Español I. Posario Central 1 Obsortivo Español von en centi: Veletz Sartifield I. Estudiantes de la Plata II (Veletz Sartifield I. Estudiantes de Tracino III (Veletz Sartifield III), Boot, ambros 0; Gamasala y Espirat II, Spr. Lorianzo II: Instituto de Contidos 1, Ferro Cartifi Casto 2: Instituto de Contidos 1, Ferro Cartifi Casto 2: Lasaling passitione: 1, Plating Casto Disyon 13, 35psz. 2, independiente, 19, 37; 3, Deportivo Español, 19, 57.

Knight extension Keith Knight, the Reading teen-

ager who was playing non-League football just three months ago, has been given an

ICE HOCKEY MATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Montreal Canadians 4, Boston Bruins 2: Philadelphia Pyeng 4, New York Islandars 2: St Louis Bluce 4, Detroit Flad Wings 4.

and of the IAAF since 1981.

Pressure on him to quit has grown since a CONI inquiry, held in March, revealed that Italian officials rigged a long jump result at the world championships in Rome lest year to give the Italian, Evangelisti, a medal.

Nebiolo was not implicated, but six officials were forced to resign, including the FIDAL.

resign, including the FIDAL secretary-general. Luciano Barra, an aide to Nebiolo at the IAAF.

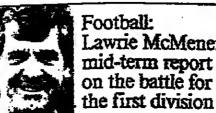
and of the IAAF since 1981.

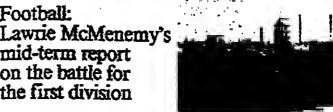
18-month extension to his two-year deal at Fim Park. The winger joined from Cheltenham Town for £7,000 in September and has since scored seven goals in 14 games.



Racing: Full cards and latest news for all eight meetings Plus an exclusive betting offer

THE TIMES





Rugby league: The team that is waking up the championship and a community

END COLUMN

A day of

bliss

with the

mishits

troubled sporting years in living memory. And I was at the sharp end of it. I tell year there were times when I truly feared that the end of the Tewin Irregulars was nigh.

Our captain had moved to Cairo for the British Council

and spent the summer teach

ing morris dancing to the

fellaheen. Our opening but, the not inaptly named Robert Edge, had moved to Kenya.

Our first-change bowler had

moved to Dorset where he

writes deathless proce and

dreams the day he took five wickets and broke the stramps

publishing a cricket book called Eight Days a Week. He

and I agreed that, as far as the

Irregulars were concerned,

eight days a summer would be

As anyone who has played at this exalted level of cricket

at this exalted level of cricket knows, these games are wen and lost on the telephone. Oh, the anguish of hearing that our pace ace, Gerry Nowicki, the playwright, was missing a match to take his play to Edinburgh! Who would an-swer the call this summer? We becan with a rain-maked

We began with a rain-soaked defeat, and a wash-out.

A dying breed of

It seemed the bubble had

burst. We were next at 50 for

eight against our regularly fearsome foes, the Grub Street

Casuals. This was Tewin

Irregulars at their lowest ebb.

Was it worth it? What was the point? Would we ever be able

Cometh the hour, cometh

the man. Me. I am the last of

the specialist wicketkeepers, and what I specialize in is

dropping the ball. The strongest side of my game is the

appeal. So far as I am con-cerned, batting is a two-horse

race: my target is to pinch a ram before the Grim Reaper

makes his inevitable early

entrance. As a batsman, I have

always been vulnerable to the

Z....

wicketkeeper

to raise a side again?

of one of his victims. In short, it was crisis. Our new captain, John "Salty" Sellers, was in the threes of

pushing our luck.

Simon

Barnes

Jenkins begins 'club fed' sentence

By Gloria Tierney David Jenkins, the former British 400 metres recordholder, began his seven-year sentence for illegally import-ing drugs on Thursday in a -security prison in the Boron, California

There are no electric fences topped with barbed wire or guards with rifles patrolling grounds at Boron, a former force radar station 19 miles north of Los Angeles, where, instead of cells, prisoners are housed in dormitories, with four inmates to a room.

Jeakins was sent to the ninimum security prison a threat to society, according dent at the facility.

"The people who are sent here have shown some maturity and responsibility in their lives," Scanez said. "The majority are serving time for drug offences, the rest for what are termed white collar crimes, such as tax evasion or frand. None is considered violent,"

Because of the rural setting, minimum security prisons have come to be called "club ons" in the United States. However, many prisoners find the lack of privacy created by the dormitory-style living couharder to adjust to than a cell.

While at the prison, Jenkins will be required to work for seven hours a day, for 11 cents an hour. He has not been given a job assignment yet, but the type of work available at the prison includes carpentry, gardening and kitchen belp.

How long he will be at Boron will be determined in a few mouths. Although Jenkins the parele board will determine how long he serves, according to Charles Alexan-Probation and Parole Office in San Diego.

The parole board uses a points system based on the prisoner's crime and background to determine the sentence. Under this system a convict, such as Jenkins, who had been given a seven-year sentence, would serve a minimum of one year up to a maximum of two and a haif

According to Alexander, parole boards seldom veer from the points system. "They were set up," Alexander said, "in an attempt to be fair, and unless they are dealing with a particularly bad offender, they tend to follow the system."

Sansom accepts the chance to revive his career

hopeful that Brian Tinnion,

back, would remain with the

club. "Brian agrees that he cannot handle the pressures of

the first division at the mo-

ment but he is a good player

and will learn a lot from

Kenny Dalglish, the Liverpool manager, an-

nounced yesterday that the transfer request submitted by

Bruce Grnbbelaar, the

Zimbabwean international

goalkeeper, had been rejected.

The matter was discussed at a

board meeting on Thursday

night but the player was not told of the decision until

bont of meningitis contracted

Kenny" he said.

Newcastle's current right

Kenny Sansom, the former England international fullback, yesterday completed his £300,000 move from Arsenal to Newcastle United.

After flying down to Heathrow to discuss the matter with his wife, Sansom telephoned
Jim Smith, the Newcastle
manager, to say that he was
willing to accept the terms of a 21/2 year contract. He is expected to make his debut against Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough on Boxing

Day. Smith, who no Thursday completed the signing of Ray Ranson, Birmingham City's experienced right back, admitted that he was relieved that the transfer had been com-pleted and boldly predicted that Sansom would add to his mat Sansom would add to his yesterday morning. "It has total of 86 full international been rejected and the player caps during his time at St has been informed" Dalghish said.

Smith said: "Kenny has had enough of playing in the reserves and I think that he realizes that Newcastle is a great place to play your place since his recovery from a

"A lot of people said that he in September, would not be prepared to Colin Harve would not be prepared to Colin Harvey, the Everton come this far north but he has manager, has opened talks proved them wrong. I believe with Trevor Steven, the Enghim to be capable of winning land international midfield back his England place. I am player about his long-term now pleased with my set-up. future. Steven's present connow pleased with my set-up. We have the basics right in tract expires at the end of the

confident than I did on day strenunus attempts, over the next few weeks, to persuade him to remain at Goodison Park for the remainder of his

"We are determined to keep him because he is an outstanding footballer whn would be very difficult to replace" Har-

Yet, even though Everton are likely to nifer Steven a lengthy contract which would guarantee financial security for life he may well decide to seek a move.

If he should decide to leave several leading clubs, both at home and abroad, would be interested. Manchester United and Rangers have been linked with Steven in the past and would not balk at the prospect of having to pay a fee which could well be in excess of £1.5

Wigan Athletic, of the third division, are about to sell John Butler for £100,000 - after buying him for £100 from Prescot Cables six years ago. Wigan have accepted an offer from Stoke City for Butler, who is their longest-serving

Butler has proved his versatility by playing in every position in the Wigan side including goalkeeper - but

Awesome prospect A Webber trying to **buy Orient**

Julian Lloyd Webber, the cellist, is the key figure behind negotiations that have begun towards the purchase of Leyton Orient in a package deal valued at £1 million (Dennis understood to have been made to Tony Wood, the Orient

Lloyd Webber, aged 37, brother of Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer, has been a supporter of Orient

lems", the Football Association has declined an invitation to join Italy, Brazil, Argentina and The Netherlands, in the first FIFA indoor world cup next month. O Viv Anderson's one-match ban for bringing the game into disrepute, imposed on Tues-day, will not be held over until next season when he is fit to



Venables is still undecided in his choice of goalkeeper

Erik Thorstvedt, the Norwegian international goalkeeper signed by Tottenham Hotspur from IFK Gothenburg for £350,000, was under the careful scrutiny of his new manager, Terry Venables, in a ly-arranged private practice match against Chel-

sea yesterday at the windswept

After the 1-1 draw at Mill

Hill. Venables remained non-

committal about the issue:

will Thorstevedt, with 51 caps

for Norway, replace Bobby

Mimms in the home game

against Luton Town on Box-

ing Day. "I know my team,

apart from the goalkeeper" Venables said.

Despite Chelsea fielding a strong side, including Clarke, the Scottish international full-

back, McLaughlin, Burnstead,

Hazard, the former Totten-

ham player, and McAllister,

A sprinkling of football

play on Christmas Eve with

Not that this is in the least

Christmas Day as a rest day.

unprecedented. It was stan-

dard practice in South Africa

from 1927 until 1956, always

at Juhannesburg, and has happened in Melbourne be-

fore, as well as in Madras.

More commonly, it is true, Yuletide Tests in Australia

have started on Boxing Day. In 1951, at Adelaide there

was a very strange nne. The

dates of the third Test between Australia and West Indies

were December 22, 24 and 25,

Australia winning on the first

Christmas Day on which Test

cricket was played. England are the nnly other

country to have won on

Christmas Day itself, Tnny

Lewis's side doing so at Delhi

in 1972. A very good party we had, too, with the help of the British High Commission.

have started on Christmas

Day was between India and

The nnly Test match to

Thorstvedt saw little action.

Alderman draws token protest

club training ground.

Thurstvedt, a tall, confident character, expressed satisfac-tion that he had satisfactorily passed the first hurdle of his when he bravely went down at the feet of Dodds to stop the the part, but not even the chairman got a hint whether or not he will be put nn display before 30,000 or so fresh "judges" at White Hart Lane nn Mnnday.

While Thorstvedt was on the way in, Peter Guthrie, the first goalkeeper Venables signed (for £100,000 from Weymouth) when he took nver at Tottenham, was on his way to Charlton Athletic nn

loan for one month. In just niver a year in charge at White Hart Lane, Venables has spent £825,000 on goal-

keepers alone. Mimms cost £375,000. The only certainty is that Guthrie will not be playing against Luton.

straight one.
But something west wrong
this day against Grub Street. I
played and missed at everything — except the straight
ones. These I kept out with a stylish stroke known as the Prod of Panic. Meanwhile, at the other end, my partner, a real batsman, played us back into the

match. The Casuals got crosser and crosser. For at nur darkest hour, the gods of cricket had taken pity on us and, such is their sense of humour, had chosen me as the ludicrous vehicle for the

Dedication worthy of a better cause

benison of luck.

In the end, we were all out for 120, of which my score was, as I remember, four. I took 73 minutes to score them. Our bowlers were clated to have a target worth bowling at, the Casuals were downhearted, and were all out for 60-odd. The tide had turned.

We had two more games, both blissful occasions. Both were draws. The Irregulars do not need victory: all we seek is the absord-yet-necessary taste of delight that cricket can

I see Tewin Irregulars as a vast, creaking and incongruous Heath Robinson device, which, with abserd complexity and dedication worthy of a better cause, humbers limited to the cause, humbers limited to the cause. lumbers, limps, lurches and hops along stretching visits of schoolboy expectation and the hoary dreams of men who should long since have grown out of it. No, the Irregulars are not lost, not quite: Though nothing can bring back

the hour Of splendour in the grass, of glory in the flower; We will grieve not, rather

Strength in what remains

Plough Lane will be no place the style of his own team, for party-goers in a delicate which has two wingers, and condition on Boxing Day. The that of Bobby Gould's. There sound and sight of Wimble- can be little doubt that there don's physical, long-ball game is, however, a greater purity coming head to head with that about Millwall's football in nf Millwall's is an awesome

at Plough Lane

prospect. The clubs may be unpopular, but they are certainly not unfashionable. Their direct style of play is repeated up and down the country. John Docherty, the Millwall manager, merely says: "We play in a way which suits our players."

Docherty makes no attempt

to disguise the fact that he is a graduate of the up-and-at-'em school of thought, but objects to the stigma which is attached to a philosophy far more common in the first division than some people imagine. He is reluctant to discuss the fine differences between

the final third of the field. Wimbledon have not had quality in their final ball since Hodges left the club for

Newcastle United. Millwall are all-square in London derbies, but the Boxing Day fixture, for which they will be at full strength, presents an opportunity not naly to improve their standing locally, but also nationally. Gordon Durie will be available for Chelsea's next games against West Bromwich Albinn and Oxford United (Dennis Signy writes). Durie thought that he would be suspended for reaching 21 disciplinary points, but he has in fact reached only 20.

From John Woodcock

Melbourne

Forlorn though they seemed, a

handful of demonstrators,

bearing anti-apartheid plac-

ards, turned up at the nets at

appearance today since play-

ing for two seasons in South Africa with a "rebel" Austra-

Although Alderman has al-

ready played twice against

West Indies and once against

Pakistan in the recent one-day

internationals, this was the

first time vnices have been

raised in protest. The West

the Alderman issue is more

pertinent, on account of their

such matters are best left to

their board of control.

lian side.

chairman.

since a boy.

• Because of "fixture prob-

In principle there is no difference between Pakistan

playing against Australia at Adelaide with Alderman in

their side and against an England team at Christchurch

which includes Graham

Gooch and several others with

South African "connections."

But these are infested waters -

and the Pakistan players are in

nn doubt that, with regard to New Zealand, their board

acted under instructions from

their government. Even so, Pakistan's cricket-

ers and politicians alike saw

Gooch's appointment as En-

last thing in provocation.

gland's captain for India as the

On the question of Vivian

Richards becoming a "natu-ralized" Yorkshireman, he

himself professes to knowing

no more about it than he reads

in the papers and hears on the

air. He is more concerned with

winning the Test match,

"crazy" though the West In-dians consider it is to start

SPORT IN BRIEF

people, including lrving late in the game with an Scholar, the Tottenham chair-equally good goal struck by man, who was viewing his Robson. latest investment, Paul Gas-coigne and Chris Waddle, were there to pass judgement.

Thorstvedt won approval forward. He capably held an awkward free kick from Hazard. There were perhaps a few raised eyebrows when the goalkeeper ran from his goal to the touchline to stop a Chelsea forward; all proved well when he dispossessed his

npponent and then sent a perfect pass along the wing-Even Scholar saw the funny side when a friend of his arrived late to be told Chelsea were 1-0 ahead. "Was it a goalkeeping error?" be asked the chairman. The goal, in

fact, was an unstoppable drive from Le Saux, a Chelsea youngster from the Channel Islands. Tottenham equalized

Pakistan at Kanpur in 1979.

There was another odd one at

Adelaide in 1967, the first Test

between Australia and West

Indies being played on December 23, 25, 26, 27 and

28, the Sunday (the 24th) being considered sacrosanct

In the Jubilee Test match,

which England played in

Bombay on their way home

from Australia in February

1980, the second day was the

rest day, the reason this time

being a near total eclipse of the

sun on what would have been

the second afternoon. On such

occasions in India it is widely

considered neither prudent

nor proper to be out of doors.

AUSTRALIA (from): A R Border (capt), G R Marsh, OC Boon, D M Jones, G M Wood, S R Waugh, I A Hesty, P L Taylor, C J McDermott, 2 A Raid, T M Alderman, M G Hughes.

WEST MOJES (from): I V A Richards (cup), C G Greenidge, D L Haynes, R 2 Richardson, C C Hodger, A L Logie, P J L Dojon, M I Marshal, C E L Ambrose, W K Benjamio, C A Walain, B P Patterson.

but not Christmas Day.

No all-weather racing at Nottingham

Ron Muddle and his son, Richard, have abandoned plans to develop Nottingham racecourse into an all-weather track, and now plan to leave racing altogether. The decision was made

yesterday after they received a letter from the Jockey Club which failed to give them support for their scheme.

Through their company, Rowangien Limited, the Mud-dles planned to invest £8.5 million in transforming Nottingham into Britain's second all-weather track. Earlier this week, Lingfield

Park was granted a £1.5 million interest free loan from the Levy Board for a similar scheme.

Richard Muddle said last night: "I think the Jockey Club, through its subsidary Racecourse Huldings Trust. never had any intention of

Exhausted Davis pulls

ern France, from January 30 to February 11, citing exhaustion as the reason.

earning world ranking points

ened by his withdrawal. exhausted and badly in need of a rest in the new year. I do not like missing any tour-

naments but if I need to take a

and the second second second second

Steve Davis, the world break then the European Open snooker champion, has withdrawn from the European because at least I am not Open at Deauville, in north-letting down an existing

Davis will lose the chance of but he is so far ahead of his don't like any of my players to nearest challenger, Jimmy miss ranking tournaments White, that his position as can fully understand his world No. 1 cannot be threat- position."

Davis said: "I have been liards and Snooker Associplaying and working non-stop ation has rearranged its since the season started. I am annual meeting, which was exhausted and badly in need due to take place in Bristol on

December 29.

the Melbourne Crieket Ground yesterday. Their tar-get was Terry Alderman, whn is due to make his first Test Indian players want only to steer clear of controversy. The Pakistanis, to whom The decision not to play against England in New Zealand, feel HARVEY NICHOLS SALE STARTS WEDNESDAY 28 DECEMBER

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Opening Times Tuesday 27 December 10cm to 5cm Wednesday 28 December to Friday 30 December 10am to 8pm Saturday 31 December 10am to 6pm



Graham's dispute

Heroi Graham, the British middleweight champion, may take legal action in his dispute with his manager, BJ Eastwood

After the failure of his appeal to be freed from a three-year extension of his contract with Eastwood, Graham yesterday said the ruling by British Boxing Board of Control stewards as "unfair."

in the control of the

Murphy: contract extended Off home Skiing change

Jack Richards, the former Berne (Reuter) — A women's Surrey wicketkeeper, could be Warld Cup downhill ski race playing club cricket in his called off in Altenmarkt, Ans- native Cornwall next season. tria, last week, is to take place The England Test player has in Grindelwald on January 12. had talks with ufficials of the REVISEO SCHEDULE Jacoby 12 down-hill (on-Alesmantt): 12 down-life 14: Heiston club about become super-glant statem; 15: statem their match professional. Heiston chub about becoming

Murphy stays Alex Murphy, the St Helens rugby league manager, has been given a further two-year

Gachot signs

Brussels (AFP) - Bertrand Gachot, of Belgium, will be the second driver in the Onyx Formula One motor racing team next season.

Ban lifted Zurich (Renter) - The Inter-

national Football Federation vesterday lifted a four-year ban on Iran and Iraq playing international games at home. A FIFA spokesman, Guido Tognoni, said: "We have now received the necessary documents guaranteeing the security and safety of soccer matches in their territories."

out of rankings event

sponsor or UK televisinn." His manager, Barry Hearn,

said: "Steve has been under tremendous pressure for many years now and although

The World Professional Ril

Sporting Diary, page 10

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T week of

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So said Wordsworth, And we of Tewin Irregulars know all about splendour in the